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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003*

Part XIII
Development Account

Section 33
Development Account

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* The present document contains section 33 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. The approved programme budget will subsequently be issued in final form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/56/6/Rev.1).

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Part XIII
Development Account

Section 33
Development Account

33.1 Pursuant to the proposal of the Secretary-General in his report entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform" (A/51/950), the General Assembly, by its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, decided, inter alia, to establish a development account in the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. By its resolution 52/221 A of 22 December 1997, the Assembly approved an appropriation of $13,065,000 for the Development Account under section 34 of the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999.

33.2 In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/235 of 26 June 1998, in which the Assembly requested a detailed report on the sustainability of the Development Account, the modalities of its implementation, the specific purposes and the associated performance criteria for the use of resources, the Secretary-General submitted a report on the modalities for operating the Development Account (A/53/945). Having considered that report and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/53/7/Add.12), the General Assembly, by its resolution 54/15 of 29 October 1999, decided, inter alia, to establish a special multi-year account for supplementary development activities based on the programmes of the approved medium-term plan.

33.3 In that same resolution, 54/15, the General Assembly also decided that: (a) savings to be achieved as a result of the efficiency measures could be identified in the context of budget performance reports and should be transferred to the Development Account section with the prior approval of the General Assembly; and (b) the savings transferred to the Development Account section should form the maintenance base in future proposed programme budgets. Accordingly, by its resolution 54/250 A of 23 December 1999, the General Assembly approved an appropriation of $13,065,000 for the Development Account under section 33 of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

33.4 In the last two bienniums (1998-1999 and 2000-2001), the General Assembly approved 23 projects for funding through the Development Account, as follows:

(a) Seven projects to be financed in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. These projects are contained in the reports of the Secretary-General on the utilization of the development dividend (A/53/374 and Add.1) and were approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 53/220 A of 7 April 1999 and 53/220 B of 8 June 1999;

(b) Sixteen projects to be financed in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. These projects are contained in the report of the Secretary-General on projects to be funded from the resources proposed under section 33, Development Account, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/C.5/54/37) and are referred to in General Assembly resolution 54/249, part IV.

33.5 The resources for the Development Account in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 amount to $13,065,000 and are at the same level as for the 1998-1999 and 2000-2001 bienniums. Detailed proposals on the use of this amount in 2002-2003 are submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in the annex. These proposals are based on the arrangements concerning the procedure and process for the use of the Development Account approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 53/220 A and B, 54/15 and 54/249.

Table 33.1 **Resource requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Regular budget

Component	*1998-1999 expenditure*	*2000-2001 appropriation*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2002-2003 estimate*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Development Account	1 576.0	13 065.0	-	-	13 065.0	-	13 065.0
Total	**1 576.0**	**13 065.0**	-	-	**13 065.0**	-	**13 065.0**

Annex

I. Introduction

1. The present document contains, for the information of the General Assembly, detailed descriptions of the projects to be financed under section 33 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. A summary of the related requirements is contained in section 33, Development Account, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (Sect. 33)). The complete proposed programme budget will be issued subsequently in final printed form as A/56/6/Rev.1.

2. The creation of the Development Account was proposed as action 21 of the reform package presented in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Renewing the United Nations; a programme of reform" (A/51/950 and Add.1-7).

3. The resources for the Development Account are generated through the efforts of the Secretariat to reduce and refocus non-programmatic costs in response to the Secretary-General's call for administrative streamlining. The appropriate measures on simplification of processes and procedures, reduction in administrative redundancies, creation of an electronic United Nations and modernization of the functions of the Secretariat have been elaborated in order to free up resources for redeployment for projects in the economic and social sector.

4. The General Assembly, in resolution 54/15 of 29 October 1999, approved modalities for operating the Development Account and established a multi-year account for supplementary development activities. To date, 23 projects have been approved for implementation by General Assembly resolutions 53/220 A of 7 April 1999 and 53/220 B of 8 June 1999, 54/250 A and part IV of resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999.

5. The third tranche of the Development Account focuses on capacity-building for managing globalization.

6. Projects are executed by entities of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs acts as programme manager of the Development Account.

II. Proposals

A. Capacity-building for the promotion of capital markets in Africa (Economic Commission for Africa)

Objective

7. The project aims at promoting capital market development in Africa at national and regional levels, including support to building capacity of Member States related to the adoption of policies and establishment of the necessary regulatory framework and institutions for sustained development of capital markets.

Background

8. The main challenge facing the African continent is to place poverty reduction at the centre of current development activities in order to advance the internationally agreed goal of reducing poverty by half by 2015. It involves, inter alia, the development of institutions and the legal and policy framework and instruments for raising the rate of domestic savings, the generation of

balance of payments current account surpluses, the enhancement of the inflow of foreign investments (foreign direct and portfolio investment) and the stemming of capital flight from Africa. In this regard, the pivotal role of efficient capital markets in mobilizing and allocating resources has been recognized.

9. In 1999, ECA, UNCTAD and the African Capital Market Forum started to jointly address issues related to the promotion of capital markets in Africa. Capital markets needs were assessed in 15 selected African countries (Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia). The assessment missions established the stages of capital market development in each country and identified the type of technical assistance/support needs and the measures for improving access to existing support structures and services. A high-level policy workshop (1-3 November 1999, Addis Ababa) made specific recommendations regarding the regulatory environment, the bond market, stock exchanges, brokerage services, institutional investors, public awareness, technological infrastructure and regional integration. These preparatory efforts have created a network of players in the capital markets within and outside Africa for effective collaboration and partnership.

10. The present proposal has been designed in the context of Africa's transition from public sector-led development to a private sector-driven partnership, in which the public sector enables and supports an environment conducive to non-speculative private investment for sustained poverty reduction. Sustained poverty reduction requires that African economies grow at rates of at least 6 to 8 per cent per annum, rates not previously attained in the region. A complete overhaul of the region's production structures and a massive infusion of resources are required to achieve and sustain such growth rates.

11. Given the recent declining trends in official development assistance (ODA), an early improvement in the institutional and policy environment to increase resource flows from private domestic and foreign sources in support of Africa's development investment and poverty reduction strategy is urgently required.

12. Only a small portion of African household assets is held in the form of financial assets. By reducing the risk of financialization and liquefaction of non-financial assets, the development and reforms of capital markets have become important in raising the level of domestic savings.

13. Capital market development is key to attracting private foreign investment and overcoming impediments such as fragmentation, illiquidity, informational inefficiency, limited size and capacity, underdevelopment of human capital and inefficient regulatory schemes.

14. Africa's development has been frustrated by capital flight. To the extent that capital markets spread risks among investors and create investment opportunities for non-professional and typically small investors, they contribute to addressing the problem of capital flight.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

15. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005 (A/55/6/Rev.1), under subprogramme 14.2 (Promoting trade and mobilizing finance for development) of programme 14 (Economic and social development in Africa).

Expected accomplishments

16. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Strengthened public confidence and awareness: the strengthening of regulatory institutions, protection of property rights through the stock markets, judicial enforcement of private

contracts and transparent and internationally accepted accounting procedures and legal standards to promote investor confidence;

(b) Enhanced portfolio choices for small savers and investors: small investors need to be properly protected through strict enforcement of securities laws and regulations. The project will assist African stock markets to harmonize laws and regulations with international standards;

(c) Enhanced capital market-based privatization: capital market-based privatization allows for fair pricing of an enterprise and hence serves as an important means of depoliticizing the privatization process. In addition, privatization through local capital markets allows for local investor participation and enhanced diversity of ownership of the economy's resources;

(d) Increased regionalization of capital markets: the project will address the thinness and illiquidity of African capital markets by enabling various countries to pool resources for regional cooperation and capital market development. Regionalization of African stock markets should enhance mobilization of both domestic and global financial resources to fund regional companies, while injecting more liquidity into the markets;

(e) Enhanced working partnership with international and regional agencies with an established track record in capital markets development, on the various activities of the project. This will result in considerable cost-reduction and improved coordination among the various programmes that are simultaneously being implemented by partners.

Indicators of achievement

17. The proposed indicators include:

(a) The number of group training activities and the number of people trained;

(b) Progress in establishing new stock exchanges;

(c) New services and products provided by existing stock exchanges attributable to the project;

(d) The extent to which national policies are harmonized to facilitate the establishment of regional stock exchanges as a means of mobilizing resources for development.

Duration

18. The anticipated duration of the project is 2002-2003.

Activities

19. The proposed main activities will include:

(a) Organization of three subregional training workshops on capital market regulation (one each in Johannesburg, Cairo and Abidjan), which will focus on issues related to market stability conditions, emphasizing the need to design appropriate financial, legal and regulatory policy and institutional frameworks, and also emphasizing skills such as disclosure, auditing and registry standards;

(b) Organization of one regional forum on capital market development and the role of government. The forum would encourage the formation of an association to foster networking at the subregional and continental level to utilize the Internet for the provision and access to vital market data, information and analysis for would-be local and foreign investors;

(c) Preparation of two technical studies: (i) a feasibility study for an Africa capital markets database, related to the establishment of an Africa regional capital market information network, which would provide online, up-to-date information of interest to investors; and (ii) a study on the regionalization of securities market in Africa, which would identify prerequisites for capital markets integration, focusing on the policy and regulatory issues associated with capital market integration, including the prospects for the cross-listing of securities.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project A
Capacity-building for the promotion of capital markets in Africa
(Economic Commission for Africa)

General temporary assistance to provide for substantive and programme support for the implementation of the project. (In support of all activities.)	169 000
Expert services to prepare the technical background documents and training materials and facilitate the training workshops and the ad hoc expert group meetings.	48 000
Expert services for the preparation of two studies: (a) a feasibility study of an African capital markets database; and (b) regionalization of securities markets in Africa. (In support of activity (c).)	60 000
Two regional expert group meetings to provide policy direction and review progress in the implementation of the project. (In support of all activities.)	16 000
Three five-day regional expert group meetings (25 participants each) to examine the role of government in the establishment of capital markets; review the feasibility study on the development of a regional capital markets database; and recommend strategies and modalities for capital markets integration in Africa (an estimated $70,000 for each expert group meeting). (In support of all activities.)	210 000
Contractual services related to the production and dissemination of the project's reports and training materials. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c).)	12 000
General operating expenses relating to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of all activities.)	18 000
Acquisition of computer equipment and related software to support activities under the project. (In support of all activities.)	12 000
Three subregional training workshops on capital markets regulation (of up to 15 days each) in Johannesburg, Cairo and Abidjan (for 50 policy makers each). (In support of activity (a).)	360 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	169 000
Expert services	108 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	226 000
Contractual services	12 000
General operating expenses	18 000
Acquisition of equipment	12 000
Training	360 000
Total	**905 000**

B. Capacity-building for research on emerging population issues in developing countries (Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Economic Commission for Africa; and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)

Objective

20. The objective of the project is to build the capacity of population research institutions in developing countries to carry out research and policy formulation on emerging critical population and development issues, specifically the demographic impact of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa and population ageing in South and South-East Asia.

Background

21. The impact of HIV/AIDS and the ageing of populations will be among the major demographic challenges faced by developing countries in the years to come. Although both issues will affect most countries, the impact of HIV/AIDS is expected to be particularly devastating in countries of sub-Saharan Africa, where HIV infection rates are among the highest in the world. The challenges of population ageing will be most pressing in those countries where the demographic transition from high to low fertility and mortality has taken place at great speed, as is the case of many Asian countries, particularly in South and South-East Asia. Both challenges need to be met with increased capacity for research and policy formulation on the part of national population research centres, so that they may contribute effectively to the elaboration of appropriate policy and programmatic strategies. This process of capacity-building would be greatly facilitated by international cooperation, in particular at the regional level, using the Internet and other efficient and cost-effective electronic information and communication technologies. The project builds upon the Population Division's research activities on population and development issues, particularly those related to the demographic and population policy implications of HIV/AIDS, and determinants and consequences of population ageing. The project contributes to the implementation of the agendas of the major United Nations conferences with respect to research on population and development issues, in line with the agreed recommendations for action on capacity-building, South-South cooperation and the use of information technology for development.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

22. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, under subprogramme 7.6 (Population) of programme 7 (Economic and social affairs).

Expected results

23. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Enhanced national capacity for demographic research and policy formulation on critical population and development issues at the regional and subregional levels and the demographic impact of AIDS and socio-economic and demographic issues related to the impact of population ageing;

(b) Improved regional and subregional cooperation among developing countries on the demographic impact of AIDS and socio-economic and demographic issues related to the impact of population ageing through the creation of collaborative networks using the Internet and other modern information and communication technologies.

Indicators of achievement

24. The proposed indicators include:

(a) A number of experts from national Governments trained in analysis and policy formulation on the impact of AIDS and ageing;

(b) A number of web sites and electronic discussion groups established and messages posted, involving regional and subregional sharing of information and good practices on AIDS and ageing.

Duration

25. It is anticipated that the project will be completed during 2002 and 2003.

Activities

26. The proposed main activities include:

(a) Training on the measurement and projection of the demographic impact of HIV/AIDS: this activity would be carried out by the Population Division in collaboration with UNAIDS and ECA:

(i) One training workshop on the measurement and projection of the demographic impact of HIV/AIDS will be organized for 20 researchers from 10 institutions from countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The institutions involved in the project and their researchers would be invited to establish a collaborative network, using electronic information technologies as a medium of communication, in particular a web site and a discussion group;

(ii) Preparation of a demographic projection study for their country and, data permitting, for specific population groups and areas;

(iii) A second training workshop to review the national studies and to discuss the experience of the network;

(iv) Preparation of a report containing the national studies and a synthesis of the lessons learned from the training and networking process;

(b) Training in research on socio-economic and demographic aspects of ageing in developing countries: this activity would be carried out by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in collaboration with ESCAP:

(i) The United Nations would invite three eminent experts in the field of population ageing to develop state-of-the-art papers providing an overview of the current state of methodological and conceptual issues regarding ageing research in developing countries. It is envisaged that one paper would deal with macroeconomic and social issues; another with microeconomic and social issues and the third paper with demographic methodologies and issues. The papers should offer blueprints for subsequent country studies to be conducted by the trainees of the project;

(ii) A three-day meeting, to be organized in early 2002 at Headquarters, between the experts, resource persons and the staff of the Population Division to refine and firm up the practical modalities for substantive coordination and implementation of the project. The three experts would remain involved in the project as consultants and facilitators to individual country researchers;

(iii) The United Nations would select a group of approximately 20 researchers from 10 institutions in developing countries of South and South-East Asia to conduct research on ageing issues in their countries. These researchers will be the trainees of the project. A training workshop will be organized bringing together the experts, the trainees and resource persons and United Nations staff to discuss the state-of-the-art papers, develop appropriate ageing research agendas specific to the trainees' individual countries and set up modalities for collaboration, in particular through electronic means. A web site for the project as well as an electronic discussion forum are envisaged. United Nations staff, along with the consultants, would provide substantive and technical advice to assist the trainees in the process of developing their agendas;

(iv) Approximately 15 months after the training workshop, a second training workshop will be organized to review the national studies, draw lessons from the training process and discuss perspectives for future work in this field. Project participants would be encouraged to pursue subsequent collaborative endeavours and would receive guidance on the use of electronic communication for that purpose;

(v) Preparation and dissemination of a comprehensive substantive report on the project containing the national studies, as well as a synthesis of the substantive results and the lessons from the training process.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project B
Capacity-building for research on emerging population issues in developing countries (Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Economic Commission for Africa; and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)

Organization of a three-day expert group meeting to review and discuss the background papers and to finalize the blueprints for national research on population ageing in developing countries. (In support of activity (b) (ii).)	30 000
Expert services for the preparation of three background papers regarding various dimensions of population ageing issues in developing countries. (In support of activity (a) (i).)	15 000
Travel of staff to service training workshops. (In support of activities (a) (i), (a) (iii), (b) (ii) and (b) (iv).)	20 000
Contractual services related to the preparation of 10 country demographic projection studies. (In support of activity (a) (ii).)	75 000
Contractual services related to the production of the overall project report. (In support of activities (a) (iv) and (b) (v).)	15 000
Contractual services related to the preparation of 10 national country studies on population ageing in South and South-East Asia. (In support of activity (b) (iii).)	75 000
Organization of a three-day training workshop in early 2002 on the measurement and projection of the demographic impact of HIV/AIDS on ageing. (In support of activity (a) (i).)	70 000
Organization of a three-day training workshop to review and discuss the country studies on the demographic impact of HIV/AIDS as well as the overall results of the training process. (In support of activity (a) (iii).)	70 000
Organization of a three-day training workshop to launch the research-training phase of the project as it relates to ageing. (In support of activity (b) (ii).)	70 000
Organization of a three-day training workshop to review and discuss the findings of the national country studies on ageing and to discuss prospects for further research and regional collaboration. (In support of activity (b) (iv).)	70 000

Summary

Expert services	15 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	30 000
Travel	20 000
Contractual services	165 000
Training	280 000
Total	**510 000**

C. Capacity-building in trade facilitation and electronic business in the Mediterranean (Economic Commission for Europe, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, and Economic Commission for Africa)

Objective

27. The objective of the project is to increase the competitiveness of companies in the Mediterranean region in regional and global markets, through simplifying and harmonizing trade procedures throughout the transaction chain; implementing automated processes and information technology for administration and commerce; and facilitating the participation of small- and medium-sized enterprises in electronic business.

28. The project will focus on trade among the non-European Mediterranean countries, members of ECE, ESCWA and ECA.

Background

29. The project defines electronic business as the interchange of information and requirements (e.g. legal, procedures, data, etc.) within and between enterprises in support of their business activities. As such, it covers business-to-business and business-to-government relations, and does not consider the consumer as part of the domain.

30. Globalization and rapidly advancing transport, telecommunications and information technologies are putting increasing pressure on export-oriented countries on the Mediterranean rim. Among the major factors affecting their competitiveness are the costs of goods and the speed at which they respond to market needs. Company costs increase if official procedures are complex, opaque and inefficient and if they are not widely known among the trading community. A quick response to market needs is hampered by not having access to electronic business technologies and an unawareness of how such technologies can make business operations more efficient. Such challenges have proved particularly difficult for small and medium-sized enterprises.

31. A number of Governments have understood the importance of modern information technologies in the management of international trade activities for the competitiveness of local companies. National/bilateral initiatives have been launched, aimed at increasing access of local companies to such technologies and improving their capability to use them effectively.

32. ECE, ESCWA and ECA have developed various programmes in support of small and medium-sized enterprises in their respective regions. ECE, which is hosting the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business, has accumulated considerable experience in trade facilitation and electronic business. The project will contribute to implement Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46 of which called for closer cooperation, and exchange of best practices between the regional commissions, and other relevant regional bodies in order to reinforce synergies and complementarities between their respective programmes of work.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

33. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005, under subprogramme 6 (Trade, industry and enterprise development) of programme 16 (Economic development in Europe); subprogramme 4 (Coordination of sectoral policies and harmonization of norms and standards for sustainable development within global changes) of programme 18 (Economic and social development in Western Asia); and subprogramme 6 (Promoting regional cooperation and integration) of programme 14 (Economic and social development in Africa).

Expected accomplishments

34. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Broader application of the United Nations standards for trade facilitation and electronic business in Mediterranean countries that are not members of the European Union;

(b) Establishment of a network of expertise between national institutions, the United Nations regional commissions and UNCTAD for trade facilitation and electronic business, which will also undertake to better understand the work done in this area by other international organizations;

(c) Strengthened cooperation between the countries of the region in regards to trade facilitation and electronic business;

(d) Enhanced capacity for small and medium-sized enterprises in the region to join the international supply chain; and of trade facilitation and electronic business.

Indicators of achievement

35. The proposed indicators include:

(a) Number of recommendations adopted and of national bodies involved on the use of United Nations/ECE standards, norms and guidelines for trade facilitation and electronic business;

(b) Reduction of the average time needed to process documents, goods and required paperwork on the basis of simplification of national trade procedures;

(c) Increased implementation of the United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT);

(d) Implementation of modern techniques of trade facilitation and risk assessment, and of automated processing of trade related information.

Duration

36. It is anticipated that the project will be completed during 2002 and 2003.

Activities

37. The proposed main activities include:

(a) Identification of needs and issues for the enhancement of trade among Mediterranean countries that are not members of the European Union, of trade opportunities among the target countries and of barriers to trade, as well as the possibility of overcoming them using United Nations/ECE trade facilitation and electronic business measures;

(b) Organization of one interregional seminar on the role of electronic business in capacity-building in the Mediterranean: assessing problems, needs and solutions;

(c) Conduct of interviews using the trade and transport facilitation audit methodology and the trade facilitation and electronic business questionnaire with public officials and representatives of private business sectors or user associations;

(d) Establishment of a network of expertise among national trade facilitation bodies comprising representatives of relevant national institutions, international organizations and private sector organizations for trade facilitation and electronic business, using electronic means and the establishment of an interregional web site acting as a single entry point;

(e) Identification of the modalities of cooperation with existing programmes within the region, including the Euro-Mediterranean Information Society (EUMEDIS), UNCTAD's Mediterranean 2000 programme and the training for trainers approach;

(f) Technical assistance to Governments in the areas of simplification, harmonization and automation of official procedures affecting trade, which will address:

(i) Assessment and alignment of customs procedures and practices;

(ii) Provision of tools to minimize requirements for data and documents for control purposes;

(iii) Provision of tools for the replacement of signature requirements by the authentication guaranteed using electronic transmission;

(iv) Provision of tools for the automated submission of data for import or export procedures using electronic means;

(v) Promotion of electronic tools for information, education and best practices;

(vi) Tools for assessment and alignment of national documentary requirements for international payments.

(g) Four training workshops on capacity-building of small and medium-sized enterprises in the area of electronic business, which will address:

(i) Development of an audit for accessing electronic business and the network economy training package;

(ii) Development of an export capacity audit and export marketing strategy package for electronic business;

(iii) Development of a supply chain logistics management training package;

(iv) Provision of tools that support supply chain logistics management;

(v) Promotion of the tools for supply chain logistics management training package using electronic means.

(h) Promotion of the concept of relevant e-business and exchange and lessons learnt, through the network and two three-day regional workshops.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project C
Capacity-building in trade facilitation and electronic business in the Mediterranean (Economic Commission for Europe, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and Economic Commission for Africa)

Regional/national expert services to perform interviews to target countries via telecommunications and to consolidate the information in a report (estimated 2 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (c).)	16 000
Expert services to define the requirements for and the development of the web site on e-business in the Mediterranean (estimated 2 experts for 1 work month at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (d).)	16 000
National expert services to collect information on the status of the work done in each country (estimated 1 local expert service per country for 4 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (a).)	39 200
Expert services to package the tools in the form of a program to be distributed to the target countries (estimated 1 expert for 4 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activities (f) and (g).)	32 000
Expert services to develop an audit for accessing electronic business, export capacity and export marketing strategy and to develop supply chain management logistics training for trainers program (estimated 1 expert for 4 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activities (g) (i) and (g) (iii).)	32 000
Travel of staff from ECE, ECA, ESCWA and UNCTAD for the interregional seminar. (In support of activity (b).)	7 000
Contractual services to organize a three-day interregional seminar to assess problems, needs and solutions for the target countries, involving 16 participants. (In support of activity (b).)	14 000
Contractual services to conduct 13 national training workshops on tools and procedures for e-business (estimated at $10,000 per workshop). (In support of activity (f).)	134 100
Contractual services to conduct four training workshops, in collaboration with the network of cooperating institutions, to build capacity of small and medium-sized enterprises in e-business (estimated at $10,000 per one institutional contract). (In support of activity (a).)	44 100
Acquisition of computer equipment (at a cost of $11,200 per set) for 13 participating parties to strengthen existing national systems for collecting, processing and disseminating data and information for regional cooperation. (In support of activity (d).)	145 600
Two three-day regional workshops with 20 participants each from beneficiary countries to exchange "good practices and lessons learnt". (In support of activity (h).)	75 000
Regional fellowships to manage the United Nations interregional web site for the dissemination of information and coordination of the project (estimated 3 fellows for 12 work months, at $1,250 per month). (In support of activity (d).)	45 000

Summary

Expert services	135 200
Travel	7 000
Contractual services	192 200
Acquisition of equipment	145 600
Training	75 000
Grants, contributions and pledges	45 000
Total	**600 000**

D. Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with the gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objectives

38. The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of the national machineries for the advancement of women to integrate the demands and needs of women in the national agendas for good governance and state reform. More specifically, the project aims to: develop and support initiatives aimed at removing political and electoral obstacles that limit women's full participation in decision-making; support and improve initiatives addressing the need for gender sensitive institutions at the local level within the context of decentralization processes; and develop and improve the capacity for advocacy and policy-making of national machineries within the state reform and governance of selected countries.

Background

39. The issues addressed in the project are those identified in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, which called upon Governments, among others, to transform national machineries into central policy coordinating units to support gender mainstreaming in all government policies and programmes and reaffirmed in the Political Declaration, "Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action" (resolution S-23/2, annex) adopted at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" held from 5 to 9 June 2000.

40. The structural changes ushered in by globalization in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean over the last decade enabled increasing numbers of women of varying educational levels to enter the labour market and obtain access to social services. However, these advances have only served to highlight the gender gap in the quality of benefits obtained as well as the sharp inequalities that persist at the level of decision-making and socio-political empowerment, on the one hand, and, in the way family life is reconciled with the demands of citizenship and with opportunities for women to develop their own capacities, on the other. This state of affairs calls for an integrated approach, which would consider gender equity as a crucial element for achieving social equity and emphasize the cross-cutting nature of gender analysis and the need to use a systematic cross-disciplinary perspective in the design, execution, follow-up and evaluation of

programmes and policies for promoting gender equity in the activities undertaken by Member States in the region.

41. The achievement of women's full participation and the empowerment of all women remains, however, one of the most important challenges for the region. There is an urgent need to promote the consolidation and strengthening of institutional mechanisms of the countries of the region for reducing the gender gap in various spheres of development.

42. The proposal has been developed in close consultation with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The project has incorporated the experiences and lessons learned by the Department through the execution of the project entitled "Capacity-building for promoting gender equality in the African countries", which was financed under the second tranche of the Development Account.

43. The project's activities will be carried out jointly by the Women and Development Unit of the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC and the Division for the Advancement of Women, in close collaboration with ECA. The project will be guided by a bottom-up approach, involving the promotion of a partnership among various stakeholders (women's bureaux, government authorities, civil society organizations and NGOs, local authorities, parliamentarians and the media).

Relationship to the medium-term plan

44. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 under subprogramme 17.5 (Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development) of programme 17 (Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean).

Expected accomplishments

45. Strengthening the capacity of countries in the region to collect, analyse and apply knowledge, information and expertise to policy formulation and implementation, with emphasis on capacity-building of national machineries for the advancement of women to integrate the demands and needs of women in national agendas for good governance and state reform, in particular through:

(a) Establishment of a network of national machineries with a view to disseminating information and experiences at the different government levels, including the creation of a map of the existing institutional and social networks and initiatives around good governance in selected countries in Latin America;

(b) Enhanced capacity of existing national machineries, in compliance with the recommendations of the Beijing Platform for Action, inter alia, through (i) nurturing a consensus on a common agenda regarding good governance and gender; (ii) developing a set of tools to be available for the region, including training materials, for advocacy and on governance issues; (iii) linking national machineries more directly with research and intervention components; and (iv) developing proposals for each country in the region on legislation and other measures relating to electoral and party systems and decentralization;

(c) Increased participation of women in policy-making bodies through career development programme and training in decision-making, leadership, governance and state reform, thereby facilitating women's upward mobility and advancement at the various government levels in national executive, legislative, judicial bodies and in local administrations;

(d) Strengthened support mechanism for women's organizations and networks and their work in civil society, in order to increase their influence and participation in the design, evaluation and monitoring of public policies at all levels.

Indicators of achievement

46. The proposed indicators include:

(a) The availability of up-to-date information and gender-sensitive methodologies and information provided by the project, measured through the statement by various stakeholders (women bureaux, government authorities, civil society organizations and NGOs, local authorities, parliamentarians and the media) at the regular sessions of ECLAC and the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as at the regular meetings of the presiding officers of the Regional Conference on Women, etc.;

(b) Number of national machineries newly established;

(c) Number of national, subregional and regional networks that have integrated the gender perspective and governance;

(d) Number of staff and people trained;

(e) Number of hits on project's web site.

Duration

47. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

48. The project will be implemented through the following proposed activities:

(a) Expert group meetings: one 4-day expert group meeting to evaluate the progress with 25 participants; and one 3-day interregional meeting (25 participants) to exchange the views on methodologies and the experiences and lessons learnt with the participation of the representatives of the Division for the Advancement of Women, ECA and ESCAP;

(b) Presiding officers meetings;

(i) Twice a year the representatives of the presiding officers of the Regional Conference for Women will meet, inter alia, to review the advancement of the project. The presiding officers, who come from 16 Latin American and Caribbean countries, will also act as a taskforce to facilitate intra- and interregional cooperation in the context of the Beijing Platform for Action;

(ii) One 3-day regional meeting with 50 participants will be organized as part of the meetings of the presiding officers, expanding the participation to parliamentarians, media representatives and local authorities to evaluate the implementation of national strategies to be detailed in the course of the project implementation;

(c) Assessment of the capacities of the national machineries and existing networks in selected countries. The assessment report will be presented to the country representatives at a regional meeting;

(d) Provision of advisory services and technical assistance to national and local preparations for national strategies to strengthen the capacity of institutional mechanisms for women in the field of state reform, governance and institutional management, including the capacity-building of NGOs and local governments and interaction with researchers, policy makers and other stakeholders. Technical assistance to and backstopping support for the national initiatives for capacity-building of national machineries will also be provided, including:

organizing training workshops; monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of national strategies; and research and intervention components;

(e) In this regard, guidelines and manuals will be prepared for national machineries. In this respect, the assistance will be concentrated on 12 selected focal points. Subregional training workshops will be conducted, aimed at gender training of the government officials on gender issues and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. The training workshop will be structured at the policy level and at the implementation level;

(f) Identification, compilation and dissemination of the best practices and experiences through the web, the media and the women's press.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project D
Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with the gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

General temporary assistance to organize and manage the project on a daily basis, providing substantive support to field activities and assistance in the production of training materials (36 work months at $7,000). (In support of activities (a), (c) and (e).)	252 000
Expert services to undertake country visits to assess the capacities of the national machineries and existing networks in selected countries and to prepare reports thereon (estimated at $5,000 per month), for a period of 2 months. (In support of activity (c).)	10 000
Expert services for the establishment of the web site of the project and its maintenance and other related dissemination activities through the Internet and the media, etc. (estimated at $5,000 per month for a period of 12 months). (In support of activity (f).)	60 000
Organization of two 3-day expert group meetings (25 participants each), one to define a conceptual framework for the project and the other to review the progress of the project (estimated $35,000 for each expert group meeting). (In support of activity (a).)	70 000
Travel of staff and technical advisers for providing technical assistance and backstopping support for the national initiatives for capacity-building of national machineries and organizing the meetings, monitoring and assessment of the progress of the projects within the participating countries (anticipated at $28,000 per year to support 14 missions). (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).)	84 000
Contractual services related to strengthening the focal point in each country to coordinate national machineries (12 focal points) (estimated $8,000 for each focal point). (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).)	96 000
Contractual services related to the production of training materials, including guidelines, manuals and videos, etc.). (In support of activity (e).)	60 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of all activities.)	12 000

Organization of one 3-day regional workshop (50 participants) to assess the implementation of national strategies to be detailed in the course of the project implementation (estimated $70,000). (In support of activity (b).)	70 000
Organization of one 3-day interregional workshop (25 participants) to exchange methodologies, experiences and lessons learnt between the participating regional commissions and the Division for the Advancement of Women (ECLAC, ECA and the Division for the Advancement of Women).	40 000
Organization of 12 national training workshops aimed at gender training of the government officials on gender issues and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (50 participants each) (estimated at $8,000 per training workshop). (In support of activity (e).)	96 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	252 000
Expert services	70 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	70 000
Travel	84 000
Contractual services	156 000
General operating expenses	12 000
Training	206 000
Total	**850 000**

E. Urban poverty: an action-oriented strategy for urban governments and institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and United Nations Centre for Human Settlements)

Objective

49. The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to formulate and manage urban poverty reduction policies and programmes at the national and local levels.

Background

50. The project will focus on the following three issues: (i) the generation of financial resources at the local level (income and revenues for urban governments); (ii) improvement of the identification of the vulnerable groups living in poverty conditions; and (iii) development of new systems and instruments of expenditure with maximum social productivity. The focus on these issues derives from a regional strategy on mobilizing municipal economic, financial and human resources; the development of methodologies for optimal identification of basic needs; and the design of strategies for poverty reduction at the local level.

51. The project follows the "Santiago Declaration on Human Settlements" approved during the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the Habitat Agenda, held in Santiago from 25 to

27 October 2000, organized jointly by ECLAC and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II). The recommendations of the Declaration focused on promoting, examining and monitoring the achievements of the sustainable development of human settlements, combining best practices, enabling policies, legislation and action plans to reduce urban poverty.

52. The centrepiece of urban policy to reduce poverty is closely related to the integration of the informal sectors; the recovery and democratic use of public space; the reversal of the trend towards concentration of wealth and opportunities, which often result in conflict between the rich and the poor; and income and employment generation for poor families.

53. The main beneficiaries of the project are: (a) the urban poor and indirectly the urban community as a whole; and (b) urban institutions, in particular, municipalities.

54. The potential of local governments to reduce urban poverty as part of national decentralization processes in many countries in the region is often limited by their lack of resources, including their technical capacity. Therefore, the project focuses on mobilizing more resources for operational activities at the local level and increasing social and economic productivity in municipal investments programmes.

55. The project has been developed in close consultation with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements. It draws on the experiences and lessons learned by the United Nations Centre through its execution of the project "Capacity-building and networking for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda in least developed countries", financed under the first tranche of the Development Account.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

56. The project is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 under subprogramme 17.8 (Environment and human settlements) of programme 17 (Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean); and subprogramme 11.1 (Adequate shelter for all) of programme 11 (Human settlements).

Expected accomplishments

57. The project is expected to result in:

(a) Increased application of United Nations global agreements at the national and local levels, including those within the Istanbul Declaration and the Habitat Agenda that promote sustainable human development in an urbanizing world, capacity-building and institutional development, as well as those included in Agenda 21 and under section 1.7, Social and economic dimensions, of the Rio Declaration;

(b) Introduction of strategies and programmes of intervention, including municipal financing and investment programmes to reduce poverty at the urban level, which is facilitated, monitored and evaluated by the subregional task forces focused on policy design and assessment, which are to be established under the project. In this connection, a set of indicators and databases for monitoring urban poverty will be developed and management experiences will be compiled in the region;

(c) Access for local governments and urban institutions to new economic instruments to develop a better framework of municipal income and expenditure. Newly developed economic instruments will be exchanged and lessons learned widely disseminated among urban governments and NGOs at the subregional levels;

(d) Launch of an integrated urban management programme for the improvement of the relationship of human settlements to socio-economic development.

Indicators of achievement

58. The proposed indicators include:

(a) Increased application of instruments and management proposals at the municipal level;

(b) Use of new mechanisms to implement management systems on municipal revenue and expenditure;

(c) Number of programmes implemented to reduce urban poverty and vulnerability;

(d) Number of municipal staff trained;

(e) Frequency of use of the project web site.

Duration

59. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

60. The main activities of the project include:

(a) In relation to the introduction of strategies and intervention programmes to reduce poverty, 10 comparative analytical studies will be developed on legislative frameworks for municipal revenue and expenditure structures, and programmes and actions to reduce poverty, including on identifying deficiencies in legal and institutional frameworks and proposals, and to promote integrated action for poverty reduction; these studies will be carried out with the provision of technical assistance to municipalities;

(b) Two regional seminars: one expert group meeting to define the conceptual framework of the project and obtain a consensus thereon from the participating countries and to launch a regional master urban management plan; and the other to obtain an agreement on the project findings and proposed recommendations and follow-up activities in order to ensure a sound understanding of the relations between international agreements concluded by the national and local authoritative bodies and the practical actions to be undertaken, mainly by local governments;

(c) Technical assistance to 10 selected countries in the region on the application of methodologies, at the municipal level, on analysing financing and management problems and improving the efficiency of poverty reduction programmes. New instruments and procedures relating to municipal revenue and expenditure structures, performance indicators and follow-up procedures for poverty reduction programmes will be developed and introduced. The technical assistance is to introduce and implement strategies and programmes of intervention to reduce poverty and to develop new economic instruments to raise income on a territorial basis;

(d) Two subregional (three-day) and five national (three-day) training workshops, taking into account the specific characteristics of the municipal systems, specifically on the promotion of community involvement in the definition of priorities and initiatives to reduce urban poverty; facilitating the formation of social capital through a participatory process, incorporating the most vulnerable groups; and increasing productivity in municipal investment through integrated programmes and action. These workshops aim to produce government-community

alliances in order to share responsibilities in implementing the municipal agenda to be developed by the project;

(e) Establishment of a network of municipalities and experts to disseminate knowledge and share experiences. Once the project is completed, maintenance and upgrading of the network will be transferred to the participating institutions collaborating with the respective municipal authorities at the local level;

(f) Identification, compilation and dissemination of the best practices and experiences through the project web site and the media.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project E
Urban poverty: an action-oriented strategy for urban governments and institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements)

General temporary assistance to organize and manage the project on a daily basis, providing substantive support to field activities and assistance in the production of training materials and organizing of seminars and workshops (34 months at $7,500). (In support of all activities.)	255 000
General temporary assistance to provide technical assistance in the design, establishment and maintenance of the project Internet homepage and of the municipal expert network (20 months at $2,000). (In support of activity (e).)	40 000
Expert services for technical activities of the project and the preparation of a conceptual framework, including studies, comparative analysis and systematization of experience on legislative frameworks on municipal revenue and expenditure structure, including field surveys on municipal revenue and assessment of achievements of existing poverty reduction programmes (estimated at $5,000 per month), for a period of 15 months in total. (In support of activities (a) and (b) and (f).)	75 000
Organization of two 2-day expert group meetings (10 participants each), one to define a conceptual framework of the project, and the other to review the progress of the project (estimated $20,000 for each expert group meeting). (In support of activity (b).)	40 000
Travel of staff and technical advisers for providing technical assistance and backstopping support for the national as well as local initiatives for capacity-building of municipal governments and for organizing the meetings, monitoring and assessment of the progress of the project (estimated at $20,000 per year to support 10 missions). (In support of activities (b), (c), (d) and (e).)	60 000
Contractual services for designing the proposals, supervising the implementation of instruments and procedures within the municipalities and conducting local training workshops (estimated at $3,000 per month), for a period of 5 months each for 10 countries. (In support of activities (c) and (d).)	150 000
Contractual services for the compilation and publication of documentation. (In support of activities (d), (e) and (g).)	20 000
General operating expenses to cover the cost of communications, materials, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of all activities.)	10 000

Acquisition of computer equipment and development of software for the municipal network. (In support of activity (e).)	40 000
Organization of two 3-day subregional workshops (30 participants each) on comparative assessment of municipal financial systems and poverty reduction activities, one in South America, one in Central America and one in the Caribbean (estimated $30,000 for each subregional meeting). (In support of activity (d).)	60 000
Organization of 5 local training workshops (50 participants each) on municipal financial systems and poverty reduction activities in 10 selected cities (estimated $10,000 for each training workshop). (In support of activity (d).)	50 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	295 000
Expert services	75 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	40 000
Travel	60 000
Contractual services	170 000
General operating expenses	10 000
Acquisition of equipment	40 000
Training	110 000
Total	**800 000**

F. Strengthening of networking of institutions and experts to accelerate the development of social and environmental statistics in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objectives

61. The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, through networking of institutions and experts, to produce the high quality social and environmental statistics necessary for better formulating and monitoring of development activities; and to increase the level of coordination of statistical work throughout the region on social and environmental issues.

Background

62. Since its establishment, ECLAC has cooperated actively with the countries of the region in the development of their statistics systems.

63. In the area of social statistics, in the 1980s and 1990s, ECLAC developed important databases, which are acknowledged to be the most complete in the region. In addition, since the mid-1990s, in cooperation with regional and international organizations such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, ECLAC has been making a concentrated effort to improve the quality and timeliness of information available on the social situation in Latin America and the

Caribbean. In this regard, it is recommended that the experience and material accumulated be transferred to those countries that have not reached a desirable degree of progress in this field.

64. With regard to environmental statistics, sustainable development is a field where knowledge and information have been expanding dramatically. Recently, ECLAC prepared a report on the current regional situation on the basis of a full survey, which shows that multiple institutions are carrying out numerous uncoordinated efforts in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. These institutions are constantly challenged to keep up with the rapid development of methodologies and practices in their respective fields of specialization. There is an urgent need for a modern network of communications in the area of environment statistics, using up-to-date technology to facilitate the transfer of methods and procedures in the area of the environment. ECLAC is well placed to serve as the base for such a network. The project will be jointly executed by ECLAC and the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. It will draw on the experiences and lessons learned by the Department through its execution of the Development Account projects "Strengthening regional capacities for statistical development in South-East Asia" and "Capacity-building in decision-making for sustainable development".

Relationship to the medium-term plan

65. The project is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, under subprogramme 10 (Statistics and economic projections) of programme 17 (Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean).

Expected accomplishments

66. In the area of social statistics, the implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Establishment of a network for regional and international cooperation among organizations, professionals and experts of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean that will facilitate access to methodological material on production and analysis of statistics and social indicators and promote horizontal technical cooperation as well as the mobilization of resources for the transfer of knowledge and experience of the countries of the region;

(b) Enhanced regional databases on statistics and social indicators, including those that provide support for the publication of national studies on living conditions of the populations of the region;

(c) Strengthened technical and institutional capacity of the countries of the region, especially those that are less developed, in the generation, administration and analysis of statistical information in the social area.

67. In the area of environmental statistics:

(a) Establishment of a regional network of agencies/institutions, professionals and experts working in the different fields related to environmental statistics;

(b) Creation of a database of regional level indicators that would make it possible to evaluate and diagnose the current state of the environment in the region; gauge the environmental consequences of existing macroeconomic policies; measure the economic, social and environmental costs of maintaining current development patterns; and supply orientation for policy decisions, especially in regard to public and private investment.

Indicators of achievement

68. The proposed indicators include:

(a) Number of countries that improve the coverage, quality, periodicity, comparability and relevance of the information presented in their household surveys;

(b) Number of agencies/institutions, professionals and experts registered in the project's network;

(c) Number of consultations received by the countries through the project;

(d) Number of methodological materials developed within the project;

(e) Frequency of the use of the ECLAC web site.

Duration

69. It is anticipated that the project will be completed between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

70. The main activities of the project will include:

(a) Preparation, for each country, of a directory of institutions that generate and compile statistics and social indicators that are classified by subject, including international organizations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations that formulate methodological recommendations and systematize and publish information in this field, to be made available on a web site with linkages to relevant Internet sites;

(b) Construction of a database, in a web environment, containing methodological and analytic documentation that would help regional professionals develop criteria, methodologies, procedures and classifications;

(c) Needs assessment, at the country level, for technical assistance in the area of production, systematization and dissemination of social information, in particular with reference to the design, improvement and use of household surveys;

(d) Provision of technical assistance to countries that are less developed in the design and implementation of programmes of multi-purpose household surveys and in establishing and consolidating the network in different aspects of environmental research, particularly those concerned with methodologies and procedures for developing environmental statistics and indicators;

(e) Assistance to national statistical offices, in the implementation, evaluation and redesign of social databanks;

(f) Expansion of the databanks of statistical and social indicators that ECLAC maintains; to update information and improve its comparability; to upgrade metadata; and to facilitate access to users by remote means;

(g) Development of an electronic directory of institutions, experts and professionals working in the environmental field on the basis of the information compiled by ECLAC from its survey on the present state of environmental information in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(h) Organization of two expert group meetings, one on specific methodological aspects of the generation of social information and the construction of databanks with a common structure; and the other on identifying priority areas (e.g. land/soil and water) in the environmental field for which countries have the most difficulty in producing statistics and indicators;

(i) Organization of two regional training workshops for experts of national statistical offices and other public institutes responsible for official statistics, one on the production, standardization and dissemination of social statistics, social indicators and the analysis of the social situation; and the other on the production, standardization and dissemination of environmental statistics and indicators and the analysis of the state of environment in the region;

(j) Organization of three 3-day regional workshops on the establishment and implementation of a network of expertise, involving relevant international agencies/institutions and regional, subregional and national experts on key issues relating to methodologies and procedures for developing environmental statistics, indicators and environmental accounts;

(k) Organization of one 3-day regional workshop on the development of a network of regional cooperation on social statistics and indicators.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project F
Strengthening of networking of institutions and experts on social and environmental issues in order to accelerate the development of social and environmental statistics on the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

General temporary assistance to the provision of support to the establishment of a network of institutions and experts, using information technology and the organization of seminars and training workshops at the regional and subregional levels (36 months at $7,000). (In support of all activities.)	252 000
General temporary assistance to provide research assistant services for data collection processing and tabulation and data analysis ($72,000, estimated 36 months at $2,000 per month). (In support of activities (a), (b), (e) and (f).)	72 000
Expert services related to the development of information technology, web site operation and maintenance of the network (20 months at $2,000). (In support of activities (b), (f) and (g).)	40 000
Expert services to undertake assessments of national institutional capacities and needs and to design a framework for an interactive database on environmental statistics and indicators (estimated at $6,000 per month), for a period of 3 months. (In support of activity (c).)	18 000
Expert services to identify countries that will participate in the pilot project for the networking in the areas identified (such as land/soil and water) (estimated at $6,000 per month), for a period of 3 months. (In support of activities (a) (c) and (g).)	18 000
Expert services to develop statistical database in a web environment aggregated at the regional and subregional levels and to design indicators on social issues (estimated at $5,000 per month), for a period of 6 months. (In support of activity (b).)	30 000
Expert services to develop a computer system for storing and processing data environmental indicators at the regional level (estimated at $5,000 per month), for a period of 4 months. (In support of activities (b) and (f).)	20 000

Two 3-day expert group meetings (with 15 participants) on methodological aspects of the generation of social information, the transfer of technical progress and the construction of databanks with a common structure on priority areas for ECLAC Member States on environmental statistics. (In support of activity (h).)	35 000
Travel of ECLAC staff and technical advisers to provide technical assistance, support backstopping to the national initiatives for capacity-building in the areas of social and environmental statistics and indicators to support 30 missions. (In support of activities (a), (c), (d), (h), (i) and (j).)	60 000
Contractual services for the compilation and publication of: (a) a directory of institutions generating and compiling social and environmental statistics and indicators; (b) methodological and analytical materials generated by the project; and (c) a compendium of social and environmental statistics and indicators. (In support of activities (a) and (g).)	30 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of all activities.)	20 000
Acquisition of equipment for data consolidation analysis and database development. (In support of activities (b), (g), (m), (n), (r) and (t).)	30 000
Three 3-day regional workshops on the establishment and implementation of a network of expertise involving international agencies/institutions, professionals and experts on key issues relating to methodologies and procedures for developing environmental statistics, indicators and environmental accounts (estimated at $30,000 per workshop with 15-20 participants each). (In support of activity (s).)	90 000
One 3-day regional workshop on the development of a network of regional cooperation on social statistics and indicators (estimated at $30,000 per workshop with 15-20 participants). (In support of activity (k).)	30 000
Two 5-day regional training workshops (estimated at $40,000 per workshop with 20-25 participants each) for technicians of national statistical offices on the production, standardization and dissemination of social statistics, social indicators and analysis of social situation. (In support of activity (i).)	80 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	324 000
Expert services	126 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	35 000
Travel	60 000
Contractual services	30 000
General operating expenses	20 000
Acquisition of equipment	30 000
Training	200 000
Total	**825 000**

G. Capacity-building of Member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for managing globalization (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objective

71. The objective of the project is to build the capacity of States of Central Asia that are members of ESCAP in the area of trade and investment in order to facilitate their integration in the world economy and enable them to respond effectively to the challenges and opportunities emerging from the globalization process.

Background

72. As countries with economies in transition brace to cope with the forces of globalization, exacerbated by the challenges of the so-called "new economy", there is a strong imperative to assist them in their integration into the world economy. In this context, their transition process from state-controlled to market-led economic systems, while difficult and not without social implications, has become even more urgent and important, particularly in the area of trade and investment, which are the driving forces of globalization. The desire of these countries to integrate into the world economy is manifested in the various subregional trading and other cooperative arrangements that have been established by or have included economies in transition: inter alia, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation organization, the Central Asian Economic Community and, very recently, the Eurasian Economic Community, including both Central Asian and Eastern European countries with economies in transition. The common objective of all these initiatives is the promotion of trade and investment. In order to enable the concerned economies to fully benefit from the globalization process and to establish an effective and efficient private sector-led market economy, public, non-governmental and private sector institutions must be strengthened and linkages forged among those institutions, both at the national level and among countries in the subregion and the Asia-Pacific region at large, to enhance their capacity, in particular with regard to application and utilization of information technologies, including trade and investment promotion, facilitation and industrial diversification.

73. The project will benefit countries with economies in transition in the Asia-Pacific region.

74. The project will be implemented in cooperation with UNCTAD and will complement the UNCTAD/UNDP Global Programme on Globalization, Liberalization and Sustainable Human Development. Cooperation with other concerned agencies, such as the Asian Development Bank, the Economic Cooperation Organization, UNIDO and WTO is also envisaged. One activity on strengthening institutional capacity for intellectual property rights protection will be implemented in cooperation with and partly funded by WIPO.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

75. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan under subprogrammes 15.1 (Regional economic cooperation) and 15.2 (Development research and policy analysis) of programme 15 (Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific).

Expected accomplishments

76. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Better preparedness for the new economy through enhanced application and utilization of information and communication technologies in the areas of trade and investment;

(b) Strengthened institutional capacity in the areas of trade and investment, including enhanced utilization and application of information and communication technologies;

(c) Creation of networks of expertise among relevant institutions of the region in the areas of trade and investment.

Indicators of achievement

77. The proposed indicators include:

(a) Improved applied and analytical skills in trade and investment areas;

(b) Higher performance and increased efficiency of institutions of the region in the area of trade and investment, including enhanced utilization and application of information and communication technologies;

(c) Registered changes in export and import flows and structure, level of foreign direct investment flows into and among concerned countries in selected sectors; and higher levels of inter- and intra-regional trade and investment flows.

Duration

78. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

79. The main activities of the project will include:

(a) Building national capacities in macroeconomic management and coordination for managing globalization, with a particular focus on trade and investment;

(i) Assessment studies on the impact of globalization on economic, social and human development and on the policy implications for meeting the future challenges of managing integration into the global economy, with a particular focus on implications for trade and investment for six selected countries;

(ii) Six three-day national seminars with 30 participants (per seminar) from the public and private sectors on challenges posed by globalization, with a focus on strengthening macroeconomic management and coherence for trade and investment promotion. The seminars will address particular issues, including: required fiscal and monetary policies; extent and sequencing of trade and investment liberalization policies; financial sector reform and financial policies related to prudential supervision and regulation and effective interest rate and exchange rate management; and taxation of trade and investment transactions and coordination among ministries for effective macroeconomic management.

(b) Trade promotion and facilitation:

(i) Ten two-day national workshops with 20 participants (per workshop) on the development of trade finance infrastructure;

(ii) One subregional three-week workshop on WTO agreements and procedures, conducted with the assistance of WTO (two participants each from eight countries);

(iii) Advisory missions to nine countries on trade promotion and facilitation through the utilization and application of information and communications technologies, including web site development and use of e-commerce. Each mission should result in enhanced skills and institutional capacity of countries concerned in the area of trade and promotion and facilitation, including trained officials in the utilization of e-commerce, the establishment of a web site on trade promotion and assistance in the acquisition of suitable hardware and software;

(iv) One three-day subregional seminar on strengthening capacities for training in commercial diplomacy (three participants each from 10 countries). (UNCTAD will lead in the execution of this activity.)

(c) Investment promotion and facilitation:

(i) Study tours for senior officials from five selected countries with economies in transition to obtain exposure and experience with the structure and modus operandi of investment promotion institutions in selected countries, with a focus on application and utilization of information and communication technologies;

(ii) One three-day regional roundtable for senior officials, negotiators and representatives from the private sector, including foreign investors, on policies and strategies at national and subregional levels for effective investment promotion and facilitation (total 50 participants);

(iii) Advisory missions to five selected countries conducted by ESCAP/UNCTAD staff and external experts on investment promotion in selected economic sectors. Each advisory mission will focus on policy, regulatory and institutional and other aspects of investment promotion;

(iv) One three-day subregional seminar on strengthening institutional capacity for intellectual property rights protection to promote investment and facilitate transfer of technology (in conjunction with and partly funded by WIPO).

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project G
Capacity-building of Member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for managing globalization (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Expert services of national experts to undertake six assessment studies on the impact of globalization on economic, social and human development and the policy implications for meeting the future challenges of managing integration into the global economy, with particular focus on implications for trade and investment (estimated 6 months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (a).)	48 000
Expert services: to undertake fact-finding/consultation preparatory missions to five selected countries; prepare background documentation; and participate in the regional roundtable. (In support of activity (c).)	30 000

Expert services (of 2 months duration each) to nine countries on trade promotion and facilitation through the utilization and application of information and communication technologies, including web site development and utilization of e-commerce ($15,600 per mission). (In support of activity (b).)	141 000
Expert services: by external experts to nine countries ($14,400 per mission) on investment promotion in selected sectors, including: mining and minerals; manufacturing; agriculture and rural industrialization; and tourism. (In support of activity (c).)	130 000
One 3-day expert group meeting (regional roundtable) for senior officials, negotiators, private sector and actual and potential foreign investors to discuss and make recommendations for policies and strategies at national and subregional levels for effective investment promotion and facilitation (30 participants). (In support of activity (c).)	91 000
Travel on official business. (In support of activities (a), (b), and (c).)	123 500
Operating expenditures. (In support of activity (b) and (c).)	13 500
A subregional training seminar on strengthening institutional capacity for intellectual property protection to promote investment and facilitate the transfer of technology (3 days, 20 participants).	69 000
Study tours to selected countries to study experiences, structure and modus operandi of investment promotion institutions in those countries, with focus on application and utilization of information and communication technologies (including web site development) by such institutions (3 senior officials each from 5 countries to travel to 3 selected countries in the region, total of 8 days). (In support of activity (c).)	30 000
Six national training seminars to be attended by senior officials and representatives of the private sector to meet the challenges posed by globalization with focus on strengthening macroeconomic management and coherence for trade and investment promotion (3 days, 30 participants per workshop); ($5,000 per seminar). (In support of activity (a).)	30 000
Ten national training workshops on development of trade finance infrastructure (2 days, 20 participants each per workshop; all participating countries); ($5,000 per seminar). (In support of activity (b).)	88 000
A 2-week subregional training workshop on WTO agreements and procedures will be reorganized to be attended by 2 senior officials each from 8 countries (from Ministry of Trade or related institution), conducted with the assistance of WTO. (In support of activity (b).)	97 000
A subregional training workshop in strengthening capacities in commercial diplomacy (3 days; 30 participants, 3 from each country). (In support of activity (b).)	59 500

Summary

Expert services	349 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	91 000
Travel	123 500
General operating expenditures	13 500
Training	373 500
Total	**950 500**

H. Networking of expertise on foreign direct investment in the Member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

80. The objective of the project is to increase the inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI) to ESCWA Member States, with a view of contributing to their economic development and integration into the global trading and financial system.

81. More particularly, the project aims to:

(a) Enhance the capacity of the government agencies in the ESCWA Member States in the compilation, dissemination and analysis of data on FDI through implementing international methodological standards, so that these countries will be able independently to maintain quality and accurate databases;

(b) Strengthen the networking among investment promotion offices and concerned agencies in the region, with the purpose of facilitating the exchange of expertise and experience;

(c) Assist ESCWA Member States in formulating suitable policies and adopting adequate measures likely to promote inflows of FDI.

Background

82. Despite the economic liberalization that is taking place in the region, the FDI inflows to ESCWA Member States are still very low compared to other developing countries. The region attracted only about 0.5 per cent of the foreign direct investment worldwide in 1997. The annual average of FDI inflows to the region was estimated roughly at around US$ 322 million between 1980 and 1985; US$1 billion between 1986 and 1990; and US$1.6 billion between 1991 and 1995. In addition to the low level of FDI, inflows are concentrated in a few countries of the region, namely Egypt and Saudi Arabia. These two countries alone absorbed two thirds of the total inflows to the region.

83. The modest level of FDI and the disparity in its distribution among the ESCWA Member States is caused by several factors, including a deficient regulatory framework, an inadequate business environment, weak policies, poor institutional frameworks, unsatisfactory market access, unfavourable comparative costs and lack of political stability. Often, several government agencies deal with foreign investment projects, depending on which economic sector is involved, highlighting the fact that data reporting systems need improvement.

84. This state of scarcity, unreliability and inconsistency in the existing data reporting system is causing severe problems in the formulation of policies and strategies regarding FDI. Some international organizations have published data on FDI, but they are generally rough estimates. They neither cover direction of the flows nor the sources of investment. There is also a shortage of studies on the impact of FDI on economic development, in particular on its role in opening new markets, fostering exports, promoting transfer of technology and improving skills and management techniques.

85. This project proposal attempts to fill the existing data gap with regard to FDI in the region by assisting the member States in adopting a system for data compilation. The project will build a database and will, in turn, use the database to analyse the flow of FDI and carry out relevant research analysis. The project will strengthen networking among investment promoting bodies and agencies in the region and will facilitate the exchange of expertise and experience.

86. The project will be implemented by ESCWA jointly with UNCTAD. It will be executed with concerned national institutions and government agencies in order to build capabilities in data compilation and dissemination.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

87. The proposed project is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, under subprogramme 18.3 (Economic development and regional cooperation during the evolution of a globalized world economy) of programme 18 (Economic and social development in Western Asia).

Expected accomplishments

88. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Strengthened capacity of ESCWA Member States to apply internationally accepted methodology and standards with respect to compiling FDI data;

(b) The establishment of a database on FDI flows;

(c) A better exchange of expertise and experience among national investment promotion offices and other concerned agencies in the region.

Indicators of achievement

89. The proposed indicators include:

(a) The adoption by ESCWA of the international methodological standards with regard to the compilation of FDI;

(b) Availability of data on FDI flows in selected ESCWA Member States;

(c) Increased exchange of expertise with investment promotion offices and other related agencies.

Duration

90. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

91. The main activities of the project will include:

(a) Technical assistance to enhance the capacity of the ESCWA Member States in the compilation, dissemination and analysis of data on FDI through implementing international methodological standards:

(i) Assessment of country needs

The ESCWA project team will conduct a fact-finding mission to the 13 ESCWA Member States to discuss the objectives of the project, identify the sources of information on FDI, examine the techniques currently used in data compilation, assess the needs and secure the readiness and commitment of the Governments to adopt and implement the international system for data compilation and dissemination. On the basis of this mission, an assessment report will be prepared for UNCTAD and five countries will be selected for implementation of the project. UNCTAD will, on the basis of the ESCWA report, tailor the methodology and substantive input for the training course. An expert group meeting will be held to review findings of country reports.

(ii) Assessment of country needs, establishment of national teams and selection of trainees

The information on FDI is scattered among various government departments, and there are a number of agencies involved in the collection of data, including the central banks, the central bureaux of statistics, the investment promotion offices, the ministries of economy and trade and the ministries of industry. The project will establish, in five selected ESCWA countries, national teams comprising these agencies as well as a representative of a private sector organization to engage in the application of international methodological standards for data compilation. The national teams are expected to work closely with the project management. The involvement of the teams in the activities of the project will help in the transfer of know-how to the concerned government agencies. A mission will be conducted in the five selected ESCWA countries to establish the national teams and select the participants (technical staff of concerned government agencies and potential trainers from the private sector) for the regional training course on the methodological standards for data compilation.

(iii) Organization of a regional training course

UNCTAD will prepare the training materials and other issue papers for the training of the technical staff and the potential trainers in the private sector. Selection of the trainees will be the responsibility of ESCWA. UNCTAD, with the assistance of international consultants, will prepare four training manuals/issue papers on the following:

- Balance-of-payments data manual (scope and coverage; measuring FDI flows; measuring FDI stocks);
- Transnational corporations activities data (administrative data) manual (measuring activities of foreign affiliates and related macro data);
- Institutional issues manual (Collection of methodologies and strategies — designing of survey questionnaires, survey instruments, cooperation and coordination among different institutes, best practices of the data system);

- Technical issues manual (Establishing database — software and hardware requirements, monitoring and updating database, framework for database management system; reporting and presenting FDI statistics — effective presentation of data);
- The regional training course on methodological standards for data compilation aims to support government agencies to apply and test a system for data compilation on FDI. The participation of potential trainers from the private sector in this workshop aims to build training capacity that can assist the selected ESCWA Member States (as well as the other Member States of ESCWA) in the implementation of the methodology for data compilation. UNCTAD may provide lessons learned from other regions.

(b) Technical assistance to ESCWA Member States in the implementation of the strategy and methodology of the collection, recording, reporting and dissemination of FDI statistics:

(i) Organization of national training courses for data collection officers

The implementation of the methodology of collection, recording and reporting of the data will require that training be conducted for data collection officers in each of the five selected ESCWA countries. A 3-day course is needed. ESCWA will select the data collection officers in each of the five ESCWA countries.

(ii) Establishment of the database

The national teams, with the assistance of UNCTAD, will implement the strategy and methodology for data compilation and dissemination. An exhaustive list of direct investment enterprises will be prepared. A questionnaire will be designed/adapted for the survey that will be conducted by the data collection officers. A database will be prepared on the basis of the survey results.

(iii) Follow-up and monitoring

ESCWA will monitor the development of the data work in the five selected countries and will report to UNCTAD regularly.

(iv) Inputs to the *World Investment Report* and the *World Investment Directory*

The data published by UNCTAD on FDI flows in the Western Asia region are generally rough estimates and do not cover direction of flows and sources of investment. The preparation of the database would enable ESCWA to contribute inputs for the *World Investment Report* and the *World Investment Directory* prepared by UNCTAD on a continuous basis. UNCTAD will define for ESCWA how this reporting should be done and the time schedule for its completion.

(c) Assistance to ESCWA member countries in formulating appropriate policies and adopting adequate measures, with the aim of promoting the inflow of FDI:

(i) Preparation of three selected country studies on investment policy

The database on FDI will be used in the preparation of policy reports. The project intends to assist three selected member ESCWA countries in analysing the data with the aim of formulating policies to attract FDI inflows. As firm specific information would be needed to formulate such policies, a questionnaire will be circulated to selected managers of foreign direct enterprises to cover: manager/entrepreneur perception regarding the regulatory framework (investment treatment, incentives measures, etc.); the type of constraints faced by the enterprises and the difficulties of operation in the countries of the region; and the factors determining FDI inflow, including the size of market, cost, institutional framework, policy framework, infrastructure, etc.

(ii) In addition, in-depth interviews will be conducted with selected FDI enterprises to monitor the results that cannot be detected by the questionnaire and to provide a more comprehensive analysis.

(iii) Preparation of a project proposal on investment policy issues

The preparation of such policy reports will lay the foundation for assisting all ESCWA countries in the preparation of investment policy reviews, which will be undertaken later on as a continuation of this project. Additional funding will be required from other sources. A project proposal will be prepared for that purpose and circulated to donor agencies.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project H
Networking of expertise on foreign direct investment in the Member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

General temporary assistance related to the programme administrative and logistical support provided to all activities of the project. (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c).)	45 000
Experts services related to the preparation and organization of training workshops and expert group meetings, including the preparation and production of training materials and background papers. (In support of activities (a) (iii) and (b) (i).)	80 000
Experts services related to the review of the existing system in the region for the collection of FDI statistics and sources of information in the subregion, preparation of country specific proposals for assistance in the area of FDI, the preparation of comparative study on national strategic and policies with regards to FDI, including terms of reference for country reports. (In support of activity (a).)	49 500
Experts services of national experts and specialists related to the preparation of country reports on national frameworks and sources of information on foreign direct investment. (In support of activity (b) and (c).)	115 000
One regional expert group meeting for government officials to review findings of country reports and to make recommendations for the regional strategy on FDI. (In support of activity (a).)	60 000
Travel of ESCWA and UNCTAD project personnel to countries for assessment of needs, support of expert group meetings, backstopping for training activities and identification of country focal points. (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c).)	50 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c).)	10 000
Two regional training workshops for government officials: on methodological standards for FDI data compilation and on regulating frameworks on FDI. (In support of activities (b) and (c).)	70 500

Summary

General temporary assistance	45 000
Expert services	244 500
Ad hoc expert group meetings	60 000
Travel	50 000
General operating expenses	10 000
Training	70 500
Total	**480 000**

I. Capacity-building in developing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages (Economic Commission for Europe; Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; Economic Commission for Africa; and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia)

Objectives

92. The objective of the project is to assist Member States of ECA, ECE, ESCAP, ESCWA and ECLAC in strengthening their national capacities for developing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages and to promote interregional cooperation to facilitate interregional trade and tourism.

Background

93. The ongoing processes of globalization and liberalization of national economies have greatly enhanced the scope for intraregional and interregional trade and tourism although developing countries are often constrained by inadequate transport infrastructure and services. To address these constraints, regional commissions have been entrusted to initiate actions to promote intraregional and interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages. In this connection, the well developed international land transport network in Europe under the auspices of ECE agreements (including the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries and the European Agreement on Main International Rail Arteries) and lately also by the European Union, and the ongoing process of developing Asia-Europe, Africa-Europe, intra-Africa and intra-Asia land transport linkages could be taken as guiding examples.

94. In the Asia-Pacific region, ESCAP is implementing an integrated Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development project, comprising the Asian Highway, the Trans-Asian Railway and land transport facilitation as its major components and has formulated a regional land transport network. In the Middle East region, ESCWA has identified a regional network under a project titled "Integrated Transport System of Arab Mashrek", comprising intraregional road and rail networks, seaports and airports. In addition, ESCWA is currently formulating a multilateral regional agreement on the international road network in the region and developing a regional transport database and methodological framework for the analysis of the Integrated Transport System. Similarly, in the African region, ECA is promoting the regional network comprising trans-African highways, ports and railways. Since the beginning of these regional initiatives, considerable progress has been achieved despite the wide differences in the pace of implementation.

95. The meeting of directors responsible for transport issues in the regional commissions, held in December 1999 in Cairo, initiated a dialogue among the five secretariats of the regional economic commissions with a view to establishing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages to enable their respective Member States to fully participate in the globalization process. It also agreed that it would be necessary to develop common tools for the assessment and monitoring of current international transport policies, including transport planning methodologies, coordination and integration of transport planning within regional development strategies and harmonization of transport conditions.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

96. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan under subprogramme 14.6 (Promoting regional cooperation and integration) of programme 14 (Economic and social development in Africa); subprogramme 15.6 (Transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development) of programme 15 (Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific); subprogramme 16.2 (Transport) of programme 16 (Economic development in Europe); subprogramme 17.9 (Natural resources and infrastructure) of programme 17 (Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean); and subprogramme 18.4 (Coordination of sectoral policies and harmonization of norms and standards for sustainable development within global changes) of programme 18 (Economic and social development in Western Asia).

Expected accomplishments

97. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Enabling the countries to identify potential interregional transport linkages and their expected impacts on regional and economic development;

(b) Further strengthening of the capacities of national officials in the developing countries with regard to identification of the physical and non-physical impediments to the movements of goods and passengers both by road and rail, commercialization/privatization, inland container depot development, land border crossing practices and formalities, seaport operations, electronic data interchange applications and financing road maintenance;

(c) Operationalizing an interregional network on transport linkages.

Indicators of achievement

98. The proposed indicators include:

(a) Number of national officials whose skills have been enhanced with regard to issues related to interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages;

(b) Number of national facilitation bodies assisted by the project in the formulation and implementation of national action plans;

(c) The completion of the establishment of an interregional network on transport linkages, its full operationalization and the extent to which Member States benefit from its use.

Duration

99. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2006.

Proposed activities

100. The proposed main activities include:

(a) Identification and formulation of interregional transport linkages and corridors:

(i) Establishment of national focal points in the concerned countries to enhance ownership of the project by stakeholders, and seek their assistance in identifying national experts on highways and railways to undertake the preparation of country reports;

(ii) Convening of an inception meeting, with the participation of the national focal points and regional experts to discuss modalities and managements;

(iii) Preparation of country reports related to highways and railways with appropriate details on seaport connections for multimodal transport operations in the concerned countries;

(iv) Identification and formulation of interregional transport linkages by ECA and ESCWA within their geographical scope based on the analysis of the respective country reports;

(v) Identification of major maritime routes across Mediterranean Sea, which have the potential to provide efficient land-cum-sea transport route for trade between major destinations, in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America and which could be viable alternatives to traditional sea routes;

(vi) Identification of major maritime routes across the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, which have the potential to provide efficient land-cum-sea transport route for trade between Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe and which could be viable alternatives to traditional sea routes (study to be conducted by ECLAC);

(vii) Identification and formulation of an integrated interregional land transport linkages across the concerned countries within the geographical scope of ECA and ESCWA, with linkages to the ECE and ESCAP regions, together with land-cum-sea transport routes across Mediterranean Sea and the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, which could provide viable alternative trade routes vis-à-vis traditional sea routes between major destinations in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe;

(viii) Consultation with 14 concerned countries through a policy level expert group meeting to obtain their endorsement on the identified interregional transport linkages;

(b) Strengthening national capacity for socio-economic assessment of major interregional transport linkages:

(i) Organization of two interregional workshops, to enhance the capacity of government officials of the concerned countries in appraisal of inter-country transport links;

(ii) Organization of an interregional workshop by ESCWA and ESCAP of three days' duration, with three participants each from a total of eight concerned countries;

(c) Conducting a corridor study to determine the potential of major interregional land-cum-sea transport routes which have potential to be viable alternative to traditional sea routes for movement of international trade:

(i) Organization of two interregional workshops, to enhance capacity of the officials of the concerned countries in appraisal of inter-country transport links by exposing the officials to the methodologies developed for the purpose by some of the regional development banks such as the Asian Development Bank;

(ii) Preparation of an in-depth evaluation of major land-cum-sea transport corridors identified under activity 1 to determine their potential viability as alternatives to traditional sea routes for multimodal transport operations for international trade;

(iii) Organization of a major policy level expert group meeting, also involving the concerned private sectors from both the transport and trade areas, to discuss the findings of the corridor study and promote some of the routes through public-private partnership;

(d) Identification and promotion of major international transport facilitation conventions:

(i) Identification of most relevant international transport facilitation conventions to which the respective countries should accede in order to facilitate interregional movement;

(ii) Organization of four interregional workshops, to raise awareness among officials about importance of improving facilitation measures, one each by ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP and ECE for their respective concerned Member States, as well as the neighbouring countries that are members of adjacent regional commissions;

(iii) Organization of a national workshop for capacity-building at the country level among mid-level officials, including those directly handling border crossing. Emphasis would be placed on the details of the international conventions, their implications and benefits, and how to accede to them, including the preparations required to implement them, in terms of changes in the legal framework of the country and training of government officials as well as private sector transport operators;

(e) Assistance in the establishment and effective functioning of national facilitation bodies:

(i) Compilation of information on facilitation measures in use at the border crossing in selected countries that expressed interest in improving the situation. Information should cover identification of both physical and non-physical barriers to be addressed;

(ii) Formulation of national action plans to improve facilitation measures at border crossing, to be undertaken jointly by officials of the concerned ministries/agencies;

(iii) Establishment of national transport facilitation committees in each of the selected countries;

(iv) Advisory services to interested Member States in the formulation and implementation of national action plans, setting-up working groups, establishing national transport facilitation committees, etc. Advisory services would also be provided to identify legal weaknesses and to assist in drafting legal provision to facilitate international transportation;

(f) Establishment of a database of experts and institutions:

(i) Compilation of a list of experts in transport (with a brief curriculum vitae, contact address, fax and email address). Each regional economic commission secretariat would take the initiative in putting together this list, in consultation with its Member States, other development agencies (World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank, etc.) and the relevant officials of the United Nations system;

(ii) Establishment of networking linkages among the experts and the institutions in the form of a network. Each regional economic commission would be responsible for continuously updating and maintaining the above database in its computer system;

(g) Creation of a web site for the project to disseminate information about expertise, institutions and project progress:

Establishing a web site for the project to maintain continuously updated information about the progress and the milestones achieved;

(h) Training activities:

(i) Identification, through a meeting of directors responsible for transport in the regional commissions, of areas where experiences could be shared, with details as to which countries/regional commissions has experience in which area and which countries/regional commissions are interested in sharing that experience, and through which means;

(ii) Organization of two workshop/seminars under the auspices of ECE and ECLAC for sharing of lessons learned. Each workshop would be held for three days with 10 to 15 participants;

(i) Preparation of a study on the use of information and communication technologies to examine various ways and means of using them to share experiences and best practices.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project I
Capacity-building in developing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages (Economic Commission for Europe; Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; Economic Commission for Africa; and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia)

Expert services related to the preparation of country reports and the formulation of interregional transport linkages. (In support of activity (a).)	229 000
Expert services related assistance in capacity-building. (In support of activity (h).)	30 000
Expert services related conducting corridor evaluation studies. (In support of activity (c).)	158 000
Organization of expert group meetings, including the inception meeting, mid-term review meeting and final evaluation. (In support of activities (a) (ii), (a) (viii), and (c) (iii).)	180 000
Travel of staff to attend meetings, conduct capacity-building workshops, evaluate studies, and share experiences. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (h).)	89 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of all activities.)	25 000
Acquisition of computer equipment. (In support of activities (f) and (g).)	40 000
National, regional and interregional workshops. (In support of activities (b), (c), (d) and (h).)	490 000

Summary

Expert services	426 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	180 000
Travel	89 000
Acquisition of equipment	40 000
General operating expenses	25 000
Training	490 000
Total	**1 250 000**

J. Capacity-building on key issues on the international economic agenda (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

101. The project's objective is to strengthen the human resource and institutional capacity in developing countries and countries with economies in transition so as to enable these countries to (a) gain a better understanding of the interrelated issues in the areas of trade, investment, finance and technology; (b) enhance local and regional training capacity in these areas; (c) participate as effectively as possible in discussions and negotiations on these issues; (d) establish the basis for a continuous and systematic form of training and capacity-building at the international, regional and national levels and a network of expertise in developing countries and countries with economies in transition on these issues.

102. The project will focus on key issues on the international economic agenda with development dimensions within UNCTAD's field of competence on the interrelationship or the interdependence among the key issues, including international commercial diplomacy, so that developing countries and countries with economies in transition are better able to integrate into the global economy.

Background

103. UNCTAD plays an important role as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development issues and as a forum where consensus building for the formulation of policies in a globalizing world may take place. Dialogue facilitation, research and analysis are highlighted as means of achieving this mandate. UNCTAD's particular comparative advantage lies in helping developing countries, particularly least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, better understand how to design trade and development policies for efficient integration into the world economy.

104. Paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action adopted at the tenth session of UNCTAD (TD/386), calls for strengthening of UNCTAD's capacity-building activities, particularly through regular training courses, to be organized in cooperation with the United Nations Staff College, on key trade and development issues, so as to better enable developing countries and countries with economies in transition to meet global economic and trade challenges. The paragraph also underlines that these training courses would draw on the expertise and policy analysis work of the UNCTAD secretariat, with the support of an advisory body to be established by the Trade and Development Board. Such an advisory body was established by Trade and Development Board decision 466 (XLVII).

105. With a view to launching the implementation of paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action, preparations for the organization and conduct of a first training course, for a duration of four weeks in mid-2001, are under way. This training course will be held in cooperation with the United Nations Staff College in Geneva and Turin. Modalities of cooperation with the United Nations Staff College and the extent of its involvement with respect to implementation of the proposed activities of this project will be worked out in coming months taking into account, inter alia, the purposes for which the Development Account projects are conceived.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

106. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan under subprogramme 9.1 (Globalization, interdependence and development); subprogramme 9.2 (Investment, enterprise and technology); subprogramme 9.3 (International trade); subprogramme 9.4 (Services infrastructure for development, trade efficiency and human resources development); and subprogramme 9.5 (Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States) of programme 9 (Trade and development).

Expected accomplishments

107. Implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Strengthening of the project's related capacities in individual countries;

(b) Enhanced local and regional capacity to deliver training on key issues and the international economic agenda;

(c) Improved understanding of these complex issues on the international economic agenda and their interdependence;

(d) Improved capacity to effectively participate in international negotiations.

Indicators of achievement

108. The proposed indicators include:

(a) Positive evaluation through a peer review process and other independent assessments of quality and coverage of course material produced;

(b) Number of participants that enrol in the training courses and the number of requests received for participation in these courses;

(c) Feedback and comments received from participants and observers;

(d) Willingness of specialized organizations, research institutions and universities to utilize the contents of the training material;

(e) Number of trainers that have completed the various components of the training programme.

Duration

109. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2003.

Activities

110. The proposed activities will include:

(a) Development of training materials on the interrelationship among the key issues on the international economic agenda, including international commercial diplomacy, trade, finance,

investment and technology, based on earlier UNCTAD activities, including those financed through the first and second tranches of the Development Account. The project will develop the curriculum, develop the interrelationships among the different training modules and arrange for the preparation, translation and dissemination of the training material using modern information technology techniques;

(b) Training activities with the participation of middle-level officials from developing countries and countries with economies in transition from the key economic ministries or departments responsible for decision-making on international economic issues. Courses, to be given by UNCTAD staff, the staff of other international organizations directly concerned with the subject matter and consultants. The structure of each course will be as follows:

(i) An introductory session, the purpose of which is to provide a general overview of the workings of Geneva-based international institutions and permanent missions. Special attention will be paid to participation by and priorities of developing countries, the contents of technical cooperation activities and the role of each institution in the formulation of development policies;

(ii) The "core" course which will cover three subject areas:

i. *International trade*: Participants will attend seminars and undertake practical exercises on trade-related issues, including the formulation of effective trade policies, trends in international trade flows, regional integration efforts in developing countries, the role of regional integration efforts in developing countries, the role of regional integration and multilateralism and the role of e-commerce in facilitating trade and development;

ii. *Development financing*: This component will encompass training in the following areas: resource mobilization for development, including capital flows through direct and portfolio investment; policies to promote FDI; the external debt burden, its impact and development and the multilateral initiatives dealing with this problem; the role of Bretton Woods institutions in financing development; and the implications for financial, monetary and trade policies of global financial crisis;

iii. *Multidisciplinary experience*: This part of the course will take place over 2 to 3 days and will focus on the sharing of practical experience, more specifically, on the links between trade and finance in the context of developing countries. Through role playing and based on the topics covered in the previous five weeks, participants will organize round tables where "economic cabinet meetings" will be stimulated. Scenarios will be designed to reflect real life problems and the topics covered during the course;

iv. The final part of the course will involve simulation of trade negotiations and assessment of lessons learned. The trainers will organize a simulation of a WTO-inspired negotiation and guide participants in the negotiation process. The final day of the course will be devoted to an open discussion and assessment of the course;

(c) Support for regional training institutions dealing with international economic issues to enhance the capacity of such institutions to provide regular courses on the key issues on the international economic agenda, using the material provided by UNCTAD and other organizations. A particular focus will be placed on the training of trainers, the provision of training packages, development of distance learning techniques and the promotion of cooperation among regional training institutions;

(d) Establishment of a cooperative network between UNCTAD, other international organizations and national, regional and international training institutions engaged in the provision of training on international economic issues. Such a network would facilitate: exchanges of experiences on pedagogical matters; approaches to distance learning on matters relating to training on international economic issues; sharing of training materials; and the identification of high priority and/or unmet training needs. The project would also establish and maintain a web site for this purpose and utilize other electronic means of information exchange and dissemination.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project J
Capacity-building on key issues on the international economic agenda (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

General temporary assistance related to gathering of information and documentation and the support in the preparation of audio-visual tools. (In support of activity (a).)	40 000
Expert services on international trade (estimated at 35 work/months of international expertise at $10,000 per month) for the development and validation of pedagogical materials and participation in the delivery of the courses, the development of an instructor's guide and the conduct of a training of trainers seminar. (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c).)	350 000
Expert services on distance learning (estimated at 6 work/months of international expertise at $10,000 per month) for the identification of distance learning capacities in target countries, development and implementation of adapted pedagogical tools, training of tutors and trainers and management during training sessions. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c) and (d).)	60 000
Travel for the implementation of the project and participation to international training courses. (In support of activities (b), (c) and (d).)	30 000
Contractual services of distance learning providers, including identified universities or higher institutions of learning and regional training centres. (In support of activity (d).)	18 000
General operating expenses related to communications supplies and other miscellaneous expenses. (In support of all activities.)	30 000
Acquisition of computer equipment. (In support of activity (d).)	12 000
Group training costs of participants in 14 training courses (on the basis of 20 participants and $30,000 per course). (In support of activity (b).)	420 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	40 000
Expert services	410 000
Travel	30 000
Contractual services	18 000
General operating expenses	30 000
Acquisition of equipment	12 000
Training	420 000
Total	**960 000**

K. Capacity-building in developing countries to attract and benefit from international investment (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

111. The project's objective is to build the human resource and institutional capacity in developing countries to enable these countries to attract and benefit from international investment. Specifically, the project seeks: to build capacity among policy-makers and negotiators from developing countries to improve the national policy, regulatory and institutional framework relating to foreign direct investment (FDI) through Internet-based training courses and through national and regional workshops; to improve their ability to participate as effectively as possible in discussions and negotiations of international investment agreements, as well as to provide training on these issues; and to establish a network of expertise in developing countries on issues related to international investment agreements.

Background

112. FDI has become an important factor in the economic growth of developing countries and a new instrument for the integration of countries into the global economy. Attracting and managing FDI is therefore an important strategy for economic development. However, without the requisite knowledge or capacity to engage in international investment rulemaking and to evaluate and modernize national investment policies, many developing countries will continue to face difficulties in integrating into the global markets and will remain unable to attract the type of investment most suited to enhancing development.

113. Economic globalization and the new orientation of the economic policies of many developing countries make international investment agreements important instruments, which contribute to the establishment of a predictable environment for the promotion, protection and treatment of FDI, including as a means of South-South cooperation. Recent years have therefore witnessed accelerated growth in the treaty-making aspects of international investment agreements and the emergence of investment-related issues in a number of international economic and related forums. Many developing countries have requested that UNCTAD assist them in strengthening their FDI policy-making capacity at the international level so that they can take full advantage of emerging regional and global investment opportunities and learn from the global diversity of sustainable investment policy experiences and best-practices.

114. The above reflects UNCTAD's role as a premier knowledge-based international institution encompassing research and technical assistance concerning FDI in general, and international investment agreements in particular. UNCTAD's role in this area has been fully recognized by General Assembly resolution 54/198 and by the Bangkok Plan of Action adopted at the tenth session of UNCTAD (TD/386; paras. 123 and 126). UNCTAD's work in this area includes the *World Investment Report*, the Issues Papers series on international investment agreements and several topical studies, including one on bilateral investment treaties in the mid-1990s, as well as the facilitation of negotiations of international investment agreements and the organization of regional and subregional seminars and symposia on issues related to FDI.

115. At the same time, given that FDI issues are closely interwoven with domestic policy matters, the link between national policies and international engagement remains crucial to the enhancement of the development dimension. Thus, there is a need to strengthen national capacity to continuously update and improve the investment policy framework. This can be achieved by building an interactive Internet-based investment policies network among policy makers from developing countries and by strengthening the participation of developing countries in international investment forums.

116. The present project responds to these needs and a growing demand from the developing world for follow-up assistance in capacity-building for managing a crucial element of globalization, namely national and international investment policy-making.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

117. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan under subprogramme 9.2 (Investment, enterprise and technology) of programme 9 (Trade and development).

Expected accomplishments

118. The project will enhance the capability of professionals in developing countries to better understand the issues involved in negotiations on international investment agreement, for example, the range of issues that need to be considered and, in particular, the need to ensure that the development dimension is duly addressed.

119. The project will also result in: improved capacity at the national level to develop and manage national investment policies; the establishment of an international support framework for investment policy reviews, aimed at exchanging information on best practices, particularly through enhanced institutional linkages at the national and regional level; local institutions and universities benefiting from the valuable and up-to-date information contained in the investment policy reviews and the project site, in particular on evaluation analysis and needs assessment on national FDI regimes; and improved understanding of the diversity of investment policy experiences.

120. Implementation of the international investment agreement component of the project will result in a strengthened capacity of negotiators and trainers from developing countries to participate effectively in the formulation, identification and analysis of the issues, alternative scenarios and other aspects concerning the negotiation of the agreements. As part of the project, a network of expertise in developing countries will be established, consisting of the trained negotiators, trainers and regional faculty, who will build and maintain their own electronic linkages.

Indicators of achievement

121. Indicators of achievement include:

(a) Evaluation by a peer review process and independent assessments of quality and coverage of course material produced;

(b) Number of requests received to participate in the course and number of participants;

(c) The extent of cooperation among specialized organizations, research institutions and universities, including satisfaction expressed by the participating institutions;

(d) Utilization of the course material by national, regional and subregional research institutions and universities in their curriculum and courses of training.

Duration

122. It is expected that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

123. The following activities are proposed:

(a) Benchmarking of national investment policies in the four proposed subregions (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Arab States, including the Palestine Authority) based on the information contained in the UNCTAD investment policy reviews, and the development of a database of best practices. The database will be made available on the project Internet site, which will be linked to the existing databases (i.e. business associations such as the Confederation of British Industry, the Investment Promotion Network (IPAnet) of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and will feature built-in feedback mechanisms for end-users, such as existing foreign affiliates;

(b) Developing and implementing of four training courses (one course each for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Arab States, including the Palestine Authority) designed to impart "hands-on" knowledge, expertise and relevant experience related to the development and monitoring of effective investment policy regimes;

(c) Organization of four 3-day workshops for up to 30 participants each (one each for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Arab States, including the Palestine Authority) aimed to establish a network of institutions and experts in investment policy-making from developing countries that will take over electronic based virtual monitoring and updating of the investment policy reviews. The network will also take ownership over training, particularly Internet-based distance learning, at the national and regional level;

(d) Five 2-week training courses for 10 participants each (two courses each for francophone Africa, Anglophone Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Arab States, including the Palestine Authority). Each course will be delivered in four modules:

(i) Module one consists of a brief overview of FDI and its effects on development: issues relating to the role of FDI in development, corporate strategies and international FDI trends will be discussed;

(ii) Module two will provide an in-depth discussion of key concepts and substantive issues relevant to the analysis and negotiation of international investment agreements, including definitions, scope and application; admission and establishment; most-favoured nation, national and fair and equitable treatment; transparency; investment-

related trade measures, trade-related investment measures, fiscal and tax measures; competition, employment and environmental measures; incentives, state contracts and promotion of transfer of technology; protection of investments; corporate issues (transfer pricing, restrictive business practices, environmental issues, social responsibility and illicit payments); dispute settlement (state to state and investor-state); exceptions, safeguards and transition periods; and the development dimension and flexibility;

(iii) Module three consists of a discussion of key, strategic issues relevant to the negotiation of international investment agreements, including negotiation dynamics in diverse settings; styles and techniques and overcoming stylistic impasses; and negotiating to ensure effective implementation and administration;

(iv) Module four consists of simulation of negotiation situations to give the participants an opportunity to test their knowledge and to attain advanced, hands-on skills;

(e) Course preparation for participants will be carried out through a distance-learning facility, including the Internet. (Where such facility cannot be accessed, preparation will be based on the second fastest means of communication.) The project's Internet-site will be linked to UNCTAD's web site on international investment agreements. All course documentation, including prospectus, application, registration, an orientation package and the required reading, will be accessible via the Internet. The Internet facility will also be used to build up participants' engagement in the course through online interactive monitoring sessions, as well as for necessary follow-up;

(f) In addition, training material arising out of regional courses will be utilized to develop — in cooperation with the regional counterpart institutions — an online, regionally administered, interactive long-distance training course for negotiators on international investment agreements, to be used by trainers to train other negotiators after the project has come to a conclusion.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project K
Capacity-building in developing countries to attract and benefit from international investment (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Expert services of four international experts to undertake activities related to the national component of the project and to provide support for the design, conceptual fine-tuning and regional adaptation of the courses on international investment agreements (based on total 17 work/months at $10,000 per month) and related travel expenditures ($45,000). (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c).)	215 000
Expert services at the international level to prepare and deliver lectures and simulation exercises for the delivery of five courses on international investment agreements of three experts per course estimated to be $21,000 per course or $7,000 for each expert. (In support of activity (d).)	105 000
Expert services at the national level to support the national component activities (25 work/months at $5,000 per month). (In support of activity (a).)	125 000
Travel of staff to implement the national component activities ($40,000) and to deliver five courses on international investment agreements ($50,000). (In support of activities (a), (c) and (d).)	90 000

Contractual services related to external printing of materials for the courses on international investment agreements, including translation into Spanish and Arabic. (In support of activity (d).)	35 000
Contractual services to develop and establish an online training facility on international investment agreements, including an Internet specialist to develop an online interactive long-distance training course.	50 000
General operating expenses, including communications costs to cover areas without Internet access. (In support of all activities.)	15 000
Acquisition of equipment, including regional web servers for the courses on international investment agreements ($75,000); $60,000 for 10 laptop computers equipped for interactive uses; $20,000 for special training software, including multiple-user licences; $10,000 for miscellaneous digital reproduction equipment (camera, scanner, plotter, printers, etc.). (In support of activity (d).)	165 000
Five group-training courses (10 participants per course) (estimated at 20 participants and $30,000 per course). (In support of activity (d).)	150 000

Summary

Expert services	445 000
Travel	90 000
Contractual services	85 000
General operating expenses	15 000
Acquisition of equipment	165 000
Training	150 000
Total	**950 000**

L. Building capacity through training in dispute settlements in international trade, investment and intellectual property (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

124. The objective of the project is to promote the integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the multilateral trading system through capacity-building on dispute settlement.

Background

125. The limited experience of dispute settlement bodies, their rules, procedures and jurisprudence that negotiators and government professionals possess precludes the full integration of many developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the global trading system. The availability of training in this area is limited, diffused and not always easily accessible. Consequently, many countries must often seek recourse to law firms in developed countries to prepare and argue their cases before the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes.

This is costly, and also accounts in part for the low rate of participation by developing countries in dispute settlement cases brought before WTO and other bodies.

126. The project will address these problems by creating capacity for dispute settlement in developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition. The training will promote a better understanding of the issues at stake and will equip participants with the knowledge and skills required to ensure the participation of these countries in international dispute settlement activities.

127. The project will provide training to governmental officials, including lawyers and trade negotiators from ministries of trade, university professors, graduate students, legal practitioners, including lawyers representing trade associations, corporations and law firms, to better understand the legal, procedural and economic issues at stake in dispute settlements that affect their trade policy objectives and market access opportunities.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

128. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2004 under subprogrammes 9.3 (International trade); and 9.5 (Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States) of programme 9 (Trade and development).

Expected accomplishments

129. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Enhanced national human and institutional capacity to address dispute settlement issues;

(b) Decreased reliance of Member States on specialized international law firms for guidance and counsel on trade disputes;

(c) Strengthened national capacity to enforce and defend the rights and obligations of Member States as trading partners under international trade agreements and in disputes with their partners within WTO, WIPO and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, as well as in international commercial arbitration tribunals applying the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce and the United Nations Centre for International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

Indicators of achievement

130. Indicators of achievement include:

(a) The number of participants enrolled in the training activities;

(b) The degree and quality of cooperation with specialized organizations, research institutions and universities;

(c) The availability of increased numbers of trained professionals who will act as trainers within public and private sector institutions;

(d) Decreased expenditures by Governments and private firms to retain outside counsel, and increasing use of locally-trained legal professionals and the local and regional network of expertise in dispute settlement matters;

(e) The increasing availability of courses offered through national training institutions, universities and faculties of law in dispute settlement law for students at the graduate level

and for specialized degree programmes for expert trainers in dispute settlement and international commercial arbitration;

(f) The incorporation of the UNCTAD training handbooks and the distance learning courses as part of the normal curriculum and course of study of local training institutions, universities and faculties of law.

Duration

131. It is anticipated that the project will take place between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

132. The proposed activities include:

(a) Development of a 35-volume handbook on dispute settlements at WTO, WIPO, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, the International Chamber of Commerce and UNCITRAL. The volumes will be prepared in cooperation with these organizations. The handbooks will address, inter alia, the settlement of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the General Agreement on Trade in Services, the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards, Trade-related Intellectual Property Rights, Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade; WIPO Internet domain name disputes; the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration; and arbitration and conciliation under the rules of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes of the World Bank Group. The volumes will be translated into Arabic, English, French and Spanish;

(b) Organization of four regional training workshops of six days each, in Arabic, English, French and Spanish, in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East, using a training curriculum developed by UNCTAD in cooperation with WTO, WIPO, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, UNCITRAL, academics and legal practitioners;

(c) Long-distance training courses using the Internet and the video-conferencing facility of the Global Learning Network of the World Bank. The handbook (item (a)) above will be used for this purpose;

(d) Establishment of a network of institutions and experts in developing countries that will collaborate in implementing training at the regional and local levels and in the selection of trainers. These include, inter alia, the regional arbitration centres of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee in Kuala Lumpur; Cairo; Lagos; and Teheran.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project L
Building capacity through training in dispute settlements in international trade, investment and intellectual property (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Expert services to develop a 35-volume training handbook on dispute settlement in international trade, investment and intellectual property. (In support of activity (a).)	160 000
Expert services from the Global Learning Network of the World Bank for the adaptation of relevant portions of the training handbook to distance learning techniques. The estimated fee is $10,000. (In support of activity (c).)	10 000
Travel of one staff member to the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee and the International Institute for Trade and Development to facilitate the cooperation of these institutions in the implementation of workshop activities and the inclusion of the UNCTAD training curriculum in their normal course of study. (In support of activity (d).)	10 000
Organization of four 6-day regional training workshops in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East to provide training to lawyers, academics and business people in developing countries on the laws and procedures governing dispute settlements at WTO, WIPO, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes and other dispute settlement bodies. Each workshop is estimated at $60,000. (In support of activity (b).)	240 000

Summary

Expert services	170 000
Travel	10 000
Training	240 000
Total	**420 000**

M. Institutional capacity-building for competition law policy (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

133. The project's objective is to enhance the capacity of developing countries to design appropriate competition laws and to effectively enforce them; and to strengthen their negotiating skills, with a view to enhancing their effective participation in the forthcoming multilateral negotiations of WTO. The project also aims at creating a network of expertise among institutions of developing countries to promote economic and technical cooperation among them, in support of institutional and capacity-building activities that are sustainable at the national and regional levels.

Background

134. Globalization has highlighted differences in regulatory regimes in various policy areas, one of which is competition policy. The growing concern about competition policy arises not only from the increasing globalization of the world economy, but also from recent shifts in policy perceptions, including an awareness of the necessity of increased emphasis on market forces as the most effective tool for achieving efficiency and generating wealth, the ultimate goal of which is the improvement of living conditions.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

135. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, under subprogramme 9.3 (International trade) of programme 9 (Trade and development).

Expected accomplishments

136. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) A deeper understanding of the problems and challenges that arise in the formulation and enforcement of competition policy, with a view to reinforcing competition in emerging market economies and enhancing competitiveness of exports in international trade;

(b) Improved access for Member States to international expertise on the drafting of competition laws and related enforcement guidelines;

(c) Enhanced ability of Member States to carry out successful anti-trust policy and enforce it;

(d) Reaching a consensus on regional and multilateral cooperation in the enforcement of competition law and exchange of information and expertise in this area. Such enhanced cooperation would protect developing and small economies from international anti-competitive practices that are detrimental to development.

Indicators of achievements

137. Indicators of achievements will include:

(a) Positive evaluation by users of the quality of the training course material and the country reviews;

(b) The use of the country reviews by policy makers in preparing national competition law and policies;

(c) The quality of feedback and positive evaluation results from the validation of training courses prior to their dissemination;

(d) The willingness and ability of regional centres to act as centres for the training of trainers so as to ensure sustainability of the planned activities;

(e) The number of trained officials and economic operators who have successfully completed the training and the degree of follow-up given to the newly acquired skills;

(f) The overall contribution to the better functioning of competitive markets and the promotion of a competitive culture.

Duration

138. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

139. The proposed activities include:

(a) Preparation of four policy-oriented technical papers on the interface between competition policy and development dimensions, with a particular focus on the special and differentiated needs of developing countries;

(b) Preparation for policy makers and negotiators from Member States of technical and policy papers on key concepts and issues relevant to discussions on multilateral cooperation in the area of competition law and policy. The papers will be used as background documentation for the project's planned national and regional seminars and workshops;

(c) Organization of two 1-week subregional seminars in African countries and four 8-day national workshops. Up to 20 participants each. Participants would include policy makers, academics and representatives of the private sector;

(d) Ten advisory missions to Member States, targeted at policy makers from different ministries and relevant government agencies, particularly for the preparation of competition law, through advice, review panels and assistance in preparing competition and consumer protection legislation, through:

(i) Preparation of country reviews in close collaboration with concerned Governments;

(ii) Providing comments and guidelines for drafting competition laws and regulations;

(iii) Assistance in institution-building, including practical modalities for establishing competition authorities, including the provision of electronic data processing and legal materials in CD-ROM format (electronic data processing and software equipment);

(e) Two technical reports on the assessments of national experiences on the enforcement of competition law and their dissemination to interested countries, with a view to sharing experiences and expertise among participating countries, identifying areas of mutual interests for further cooperation or for joint interventions;

(f) Preparation of a training manual on common law base competition policy, containing eight modules for use by trainers in individual countries and the organization of national training workshops for government officials on modalities for the implementation of national competition and consumer protection legislation;

(g) Establishment of a database on anti-competitive practices affecting more than one country.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project M
Institutional capacity-building for competition law and policy (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

General temporary assistance related to the preparation, the cost of reproduction and dissemination of the four policy and technical papers on the interface between competition policy and development dimensions (activity (a)); and the cost of consultant services for the preparation of two technical reports on the assessments of national experiences on the enforcement of competition law (activity (e)).	84 000

General temporary assistance related to country reviews (activity (d)) and for establishment of a database on anti-competitive practices affecting more than one country (activity (g)), as well as the costs of transferring the database to interested countries.	52 000
Travel: advisory missions (10) for UNCTAD and expert staff, to a maximum of 12 countries and 2 regional integration groupings (in support of activity (c)).	77 000
Acquisition of equipment, such as laptops (3), video projectors, electronic data processing and software (in CD-ROM format) equipment, in the context of the international assistance described in activity (g).	22 000
Group training for the organization of two 1-week subregional seminars in African countries for 20 participants (international and UNCTAD experts) per workshop, and of four 8-day national workshops for 20 participants (international and UNCTAD experts) per workshop and the preparation and reproduction of the necessary pedagogic material and consultant fees for the preparation of a training manual on common law based competition policy (activity (b)).	175 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	136 000
Travel	77 000
Acquisition of equipment	22 000
Training	175 000
Total	**410 000**

N. Improving participation and capacity-building in the implementation of certified environmental management systems in West Asia (United Nations Environment Programme)

Objectives

140. The objective of the project is to promote the environmental benefits of implementing an environmental management system in the member States of West Asia and to build the necessary human capacity to implement the system for the collaborating companies.

Background

141. An audited environmental management system is the part of an overall management system that addresses the immediate and long-term impact that the product, services and operations of companies can have on the environment. An environmental audit is defined as a management tool comprising a systematic, periodic and objective evaluation of how well environmental organization, management and equipment are performing with the aim of helping to safeguard the environment by: (a) facilitating management and control of environmental practices; and (b) assessing compliance with company policies, which include meeting regulatory requirements.

142. Environmental management systems are used by organizations to help them to systematically approach environmental issues and to integrate environmental care as a normal part of their operations and business strategy. There are also potential cost-savings through the systematic assessment of inputs, throughputs and outputs. A global survey carried out by SGS Yarsley

Consultants in 1996 found that 85 per cent of companies felt that the implementation of an environmental management system was cost effective, while 60 per cent expected a payback on investment in just one year through cost savings generated. An environmental management system is essential to an organization's ability to anticipate and meet growing environmental performance expectations. An environmental management system is most successful when the top management of an organization rates environmental management among its highest priorities.

143. The International Standards Organization has developed an audited environmental management system, ISO14001, which enables organizations to have their environmental management system audited by an external accreditation body, allowing them to publicize the achievement of an independently verified environmental management system. ISO14001 has demonstrably achieved cost savings, as well as minimizing environmental impacts, in many companies worldwide. At the end of 1999, 14,106 companies/organizations had been accredited with ISO14001, only 2.39 per cent of which were in Africa and West Asia (www.iso.ch/press/survey9.pdf).

144. In the West Asia region (Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates and Yemen), industrial activity is dominated by the extraction and processing of oil. The major industries in the region are the petrochemical and allied industries and, to some extent, mineral extractive and ore processing industries. These industries are all recognized as potentially polluting industries and, although environmental management has improved in the region over recent years, the adoption of recognized, certified environmental management systems is still relatively slow, but is progressing. Small and medium-sized enterprises, often government-subsidized, also have significant environmental impacts. It is this sector that will be targeted by the project, directly through the companies as well as through the Governments, using awareness-raising activities.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

145. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 under subprogramme 10.5 (Regional cooperation and representation) of programme 10 (Environment).

Expected accomplishments

146. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Increased awareness throughout the region of the benefits of environmental management and, for those organizations/companies that make a commitment, accreditation to an internationally recognized environmental management system;

(b) Better understanding of the role of environmental management systems and the promotion of an open relationship between the regulator and the regulated.

Indicators

147. Indicators of achievements will include:

(a) Increase in the number of organizations/companies implementing and achieving accreditation to ISO14001;

(b) Number of government environmental organizations attending training workshops and, therefore, improving environmental awareness within these organizations/companies;

(c) Increase in the number of organizations/companies requesting information on the implementation of environmental management systems from Governments;

(d) Reduction in utilities consumption, waste and accidents in the organizations/companies involved.

Duration

148. It is anticipated that the project will be executed between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

149. The main activities include:

(a) Organization of six workshops on the benefits of environmental management with the participation of the public and private sectors (30 participants per workshop);

(b) Development of a regional network of regulators, through the UNEP global and country national programmes, with the knowledge and experience to work alongside industries within their countries to implement and maintain the standards of ISO14001;

(c) Organization of six 3-day workshops (30 participants per workshop) for trainers. The workshop will address the main elements of an environmental management system and its relevance to the operations of a company;

(d) Organization of one 2-day workshop (for 20 participants) for regulators. The workshop will provide regulators with an overview of an environmental management system and identify practical ways to use it as a way to control pollution and an indicator of regulatory compliance. The workshop will formalize a regional network between UNEP's regional office for West Asia, its Division of Technology, Industry and Economics and its national focal points to enhance linkages between them with respect to environmental management within industry.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project N
Improving participation and capacity-building in the implementation of certified environmental management systems in West Asia (United Nations Environment Programme)

General temporary assistance to provide substantive and logistical support for the preparation of databases, resource materials and training activities (estimated at 14 work months at $2,000 per month). (In support of all activities.)	28 000
Experts services related to workshops on the benefits of environmental management: $12,000 (in support of activity (a)); conduct train the trainers workshops: $32,000 (in support of activity (c)); conduct workshop for regulators: $25,000 (in support of activity (d).)	69 000
Travel of staff to support and backstop training activities. (In support of activities (a), (c) and (d).)	18 000
Contractual services for the preparation of databases, handouts and background materials of organizations/companies related to the workshops. (In support of activities (a), (c) and (d).)	25 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of all activities.)	6 000

Six workshops on the benefits of environmental management (1-day meeting for 30 participants). (In support of activity (a).)	37 000
Six training the trainer workshops (1-day meeting for 20 participants each). (In support of activity (c).)	25 000
One workshop for regulators (2-day meeting for 20 participants). (In support of activity (d).)	22 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	28 000
Experts services	69 000
Travel	18 000
Contractual services	25 000
General operating expenses	6 000
Training	84 000
Total	**230 000**

O. Renewable energy for information and the provision of communication services in rural areas of developing countries (United Nations Environment Programme and the International Telecommunication Union)

Objective

150. The project's objective is to identify options and a structured approach for using renewable energy (e.g., solar photovoltaics) technologies for powering information and communication technologies in rural areas of developing countries.

151. The project will identify policy and investment opportunities that would advance the availability of public services in rural areas of developing countries, promoting the expansion of communications infrastructure and expanding the use of information and communication technologies to support sustainable development.

Background

152. The high-level segment on information technology and development of the 2000 session of the Economic and Social Council highlighted the role of information and communication technologies in the knowledge-based global economy. The potential marginalization of the poorest countries and a growing "digital divide" has also received increasing attention. Lack of access to communication in the world today is becoming another factor in defining poverty. Expanding communications infrastructure and networks depends on the availability of electricity to power equipment. While extending electricity grids to rural communities is prohibitively expensive, advances in renewable energy technologies mean that "off grid" systems can and are being used to provide reliable electrical power to rural communities.

153. The future of telecommunications lies in wireless applications. As wireless application technology becomes prevalent, base stations powered by solar and other renewable energy systems may be the most appropriate solution for relatively inaccessible regions and rural areas in poor countries. The

proposed project will therefore explore options for utilizing renewable energy technologies (e.g., solar photovoltaic systems) for powering base stations for wireless application technology in rural areas of developing countries.

154. Joining forces with ITU and other partners in UNEP's Global Telecom Initiative, UNEP will build on its work in the field of sustainable energy, particularly the creation of renewable energy-based businesses in developing countries.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

155. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, under subprogramme 10.4 (Technology, industry and economics) under programme 10 (Environment).

Expected accomplishments

156. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Development of a methodology for examining, from both the public and private perspectives, how rapidly changing information and communication technologies can help meet the sustainable development needs of rural communities;

(b) Development of guidelines for changes in government and private sector policies and practices needed to keep abreast of technological advances and take advantage of new applications, including those that foster private sector investment in the field;

(c) Completion of recommendations on field application or demonstration in selected developing countries, supported by a comprehensive list of applications where information and communication technologies can be applied creatively to address problems in the areas of health, education and environment;

(d) Development of an action plan for a follow-up programme on renewable energy in support of wireless application with the United Nations and private sector partners and a network to support the use of such technology in developing countries.

Indicators of achievement

157. Achievement will be measured by the extent to which Member States find the proposed methodology, guidelines, recommendations and action plan on the development to be useful for policy development at the national, subregional and regional levels.

Duration

158. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2003.

Activities

159. The project will involve the following activities:

(a) Assessing the availability and current use of renewable energy technology in rural areas in support of information and communications infrastructures, focusing on a group of 8 to 10 developing countries (regionally balanced);

(b) Conducting a needs assessment mission with regard to the desirability of introducing identified renewable energy technologies options in view of the local and regional contexts;

(c) Identifying renewable energy technologies-based information and communication technologies to improve the availability of wireless application technology in support of public services, particularly in the areas of health, education and environmental protection;

(d) Identifying obstacles to the realization of such alternatives or their implementation, assessing their feasibility in respect of funding, regulatory environment, technology options, human resources and preparing guidelines for use by other groups;

(e) Defining policy and investment opportunities for addressing the identified obstacles and needs;

(f) Preparing groundwork for the follow-up programme on renewable energy in support of wireless applications to develop projects and establish a network to support the deployment of such technology in developing countries.

160. The proposed above-mentioned activities will be executed within the following four phases:

Phase 1: Identification of issues, analysis, consultation: an expert group meeting will be convened under the auspices of UNEP and fellow United Nations partners, involving experts from companies involved in UNEP and ITU initiatives. These will include experts with first hand knowledge of setting up renewable energy technologies and wireless application systems, as well as experts in the provision of public services through information and communication technologies in rural communities. The meeting will create a task force on renewable energy in support of wireless application to oversee the project.

Phase 2: Needs assessment and review of existing approaches: two experts, one from a developing and one from a developed country, will do an assessment through visits to eight developing countries, in cooperation with local partners on the capacity of renewable energy technologies to support health, education and environmental services to under-served populations, and the role that renewable energy technologies can play in making information and communication technologies accessible in remote areas.

Phase 3: A comprehensive policy document will be prepared by the two experts in close cooperation with the task force on renewable energy in support of wireless applications, to identify areas in which information and communication technologies and renewable energy technologies can, in future, offer the best and cleanest delivery mechanism for communication in rural areas in the fields of environment, health, education and economic development. This document will include concrete suggestions on how Government and bilateral institutions, NGOs and the private sector can respond in ensuring that new information and communication technologies and renewable energy technologies, in combination, make a strengthened and integrated contribution to sustainable development. The report will be circulated to the task force members for comments, followed by a concluding expert group meeting to evaluate the findings and all recommendations on policy and investment opportunities.

Phase 4: Preparing the groundwork for an initiative that teams up ITU and other partners in the UNEP Global Telecom Initiative with one or several United Nations institutions and includes an innovative network to support the deployment of renewable energy in support of wireless applications in developing countries.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project O
Renewable energy for information and the provision of communication services in rural areas of developing countries (United Nations Environment Programme and the International Telecommunication Union)

Expert services related to: the conduct of assessment studies for eight to ten countries. (In support of activity (a)); preparation of policy document on information and communication technology and renewable energy technologies. (In support of activities (c), (d) and (e)); establishment of the network to support the deployment of renewable energy in support of wireless application in developing countries. (In support of activity (f).)	160 000
Two expert group meetings: one on the identification of issues and problems and one on the revision of the projects outcome and recommendations on future action in support of activities (b), (c), (d) and (e) and four (estimated at 15 participants per meeting).	50 000
Travel of staff for monitoring and evaluation purposes and to support the organization of two expert group meetings. (In support of activities (c), (d) and (e).)	10 000
Contractual services related to the production, printing and dissemination of the final report of the project. (In support of activities (c), (d) and (e).)	30 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous expenses (to support implementation all activities).	10 000

Summary

Expert services	160 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	50 000
Travel	10 000
Contractual services	30 000
General operating expenses	10 000
Total	**260 000**

P. Drug abuse prevention in the workplace and in the family in Southern Cone countries (United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention)

Objectives

161. Within the overall goal of psychoactive substance demand reduction, the objective of the project is to establish primary, secondary and tertiary programmes of drug control at enterprises of the Southern Cone countries.

Background

162. The project follows a model developed by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, WHO and ILO. A similar project successfully adapted to the Brazilian culture was carried out in approximately 50 Brazilian enterprises and contributed to prevent the problem of drug and alcohol abuse amongst workers and their families by focusing on prevention, reducing illicit drugs consumption by 70 per cent, the number of smokers by 13 per cent, labour accidents by 35 per cent, absenteeism by 14 per cent and tardiness by 29 per cent.

163. Capitalizing on the success of that project, in November of 1999, the Technical Cooperation Committee of the Common Market of the Southern Cone (MERCOSUR), supported by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, approved the transfer of project on drug abuse prevention in the workplace and the family to the other member countries of the Common Market.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

164. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, under subprogramme 13.3 (Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse, treatment and rehabilitation of drug victims) of programme 13 (International drug control).

Expected accomplishments

165. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Reduced demand for psychoactive substances at the workplace in Southern Cone countries;

(b) Each of the Southern Cone countries will have one medium-sized enterprise (between 100 and 450 employees) equipped with the technology developed by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, ILO and WHO for the prevention of problems related to alcohol and drug abuse amongst workers and their families.

Indicators of achievement

166. The proposed indicators include:

(a) A significant reduction in the number of incidents of consumption of psychoactive substances verified amongst the workers of the participating enterprises;

(b) An increased awareness amongst workers regarding the prevention of problems associated to the use of substances measured by questionnaires and interviews;

(c) A significant reduction in the number of work accidents, absenteeism and sick leave in participating enterprises;

(d) Establishment of a capacity to disseminate the project with other enterprises thus replicating the knowledge of the technology transferred.

Duration

167. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

168. The project will involve the following major activities:

(a) Adaptation of the project model to the operational reality of the Southern Cone enterprises, taking into consideration the specific characteristics of each workplace;

(i) The project team will apply the evaluative instruments necessary for implementing the project. The team will identify the knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of the workers, measure the incidence of drug and alcohol consumption amongst workers and their families, the level of knowledge regarding drug and alcohol and its effects on health, the family and the workplace, as well as attitudes to receiving information on this matter at the workplace;

(ii) A questionnaire will be given to measure the number of incidents within the workplace that are associated with the consumption of psychoactive substances, such as accidents, absenteeism and sick leave. The compiling of these variables before and after the implementation of the project will be the main source of information for the evaluation results;

(iii) The project material will be used by all the participating enterprises. The educational material will be distributed to all participants;

(b) Implementation of the project model for one medium-sized enterprise (between 100 and 450 employees) within each of the Southern Cone countries:

(i) The regional office of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme will contact the beneficiary enterprises;

(ii) A one-week training session will be held for supervisors and managers (multipliers), the coordination committee and the orientation committee;

(iii) The trained multipliers will maintain contact with the project team concerning the adaptation of the project model to each enterprise;

(iv) In cooperation with the participating enterprise, baseline data will be gathered for the databank necessary for monitoring and evaluating the project's efficacy. As part of the evaluation process of each enterprise, preventive activities will be categorized;

(v) The baseline information collected from the enterprise for each of the evaluation phases will feed the databank, allowing for the elaboration of individual analysis;

(vi) After an interval of one year from the collection of initial baseline data, an outcome evaluation will be carried out, applying the initial survey evaluation as adapted to the particular case of each enterprise. Results will be collected and compiled with the previous collection;

(vii) Within two months of the collection of baseline and outcome data, the project team will inform the coordinating and managing group of each enterprise about the initial findings;

(c) Conduct of an evaluation, taking into consideration the activities implemented during the project:

(i) Outcome data will be analysed and interpreted by the evaluation group, with input from local consultants/experts;

(ii) The case reports will be delivered first to the participating enterprises and subsequently used, upon authorization of the participating enterprise, in technical reports of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

(iii) Information included in the reports to enterprises, as well as standard information on the utilization of resources and project progress, will be submitted to the Drug Control Programme in the form of annual reports and the final report on the project;

(iv) The project team will produce final written reports on the impact of the model in participating enterprises and the workforce. The report will contain specific recommendations regarding the potential for replication and extension of the project to other geographical areas;

(v) A seminar will be organized for all participants from Southern Cone countries to present a final project report for each country. The private sector, public authorities and community representatives will be invited.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project P
Drug abuse prevention in the workplace and the family in Southern Cone countries (United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention)

General temporary assistance related to substantive and programme support of the project, through the facilities of the regional office of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in Brazil. (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c).)	40 800
Expert services related to the transfer of technology to recipient countries, including that related to the organization of training of local technicians, including 12 training workshops and 5 assessments missions. (In support of activity (b).)	119 200
Expert services related to exante and expost assessments of the enterprises, adopting the project model, including the collection and analysis of statistical and sociological data. (In support of activities (a) and (c).)	50 000
One expert group meeting to review the outcome of the project and to make recommendations on the use of the model in other subregions. (In support of activity (b).)	50 000
Travel of project personnel to support training activities and undertake assessment and monitoring activities. (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c).)	30 000
Contractual services related to the preparation, production and dissemination of the project's training materials and reports, including translation, when required, in English and Spanish. (In support of activity (c) (iii).)	50 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous expenses. (In support of all activities.)	10 000
Twelve training workshops (3 workshops in 4 countries) for supervisors and managers. (In support of activity (b).)	100 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	40 800
Expert services	169 200
Ad hoc expert group meetings	50 000
Travel	30 000
Contractual services	50 000
General operating expenses	10 000
Training	100 000
Total	**450 000**

Q. Strengthening of a network of focal points on gender awareness in Africa and West Asia (Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Economic Commission for Africa; in cooperation with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women)

Objectives

169. The project aims to enhance the capacity of national machineries to use information and communication technologies to strengthen their network and capacity-building programmes for the advancement of women in Africa and the Middle East. The project will be implemented in collaboration with INSTRAW.

170. This project will support and build on the achievements to be made by the previously approved project entitled "Capacity-building for promoting gender equality in the African countries" (00/01E, 2000-2002, funded by the Development Account). More specifically, the project aims to:

(a) Assess needs and survey the capacity of local/national institutions for information and communication technologies;

(b) Define target group categories and develop materials through an expert group meeting;

(c) Build capacity through training of specific target group as well as training of trainers for standard skill acquisition in information and communication technologies;

(d) Promote and/or strengthen existing information and communication networks (Gender Awareness Information and Networking System (GAINS), South/South, North/South);

(e) Build women's capacity through the provision of equipment and training;

(f) Strengthen women's networking potential with the establishment of LISTSERVs in 10 pilot countries in Africa and the Middle East.

Background

171. On 10 June 2000, the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", adopted, by consensus, a Political Declaration (resolution S-23/2, annex) and an outcome document (resolution S-23/3, annex), entitled "Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Platform for Action". The outcome document not only reaffirmed the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration and the

Platform for Action, but also emphasized emerging issues and challenges that have gained prominence in the past five years. In addition, there was consensus about the need to build and/or strengthen the capacity of women's organizations, particularly for South/South networking, information and experience-sharing to maximize the benefits of good practices.

172. Moreover, Member States focused on the impact of globalization on women, especially with regard to access to communications technologies. Owing to the expanding reach of new communication technologies in recent years, the use of technology for the empowerment of women has increased significantly, including networking, advocacy, dissemination and exchange of information, as well as creative e-commerce initiatives designed to help local artisans and producers market their products globally.

173. Developing countries in Africa and the Middle East are, however, particularly affected by the digital divide, as information technology remains a minority privilege owing to limited access, connectivity and income. Within this context, women suffer from the typical gender disparities, which affect not only design and dissemination of improved technology, but opportunities. This project would build on the achievements of the previously approved project, and rely on existing structures such as national machineries to build the capacity of women, as well as their capacity to assist other women, to access and use information and communication technologies before the current gender gap widens further.

174. To ensure sustainability, the project will strengthen existing networks at national and regional levels through the establishment of information technology capacities for gender focal points in 10 pilot countries (5 in Africa and 5 in the Middle East).

Relationship to the medium-term plan

175. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, in particular under subprogramme 7.2 (Gender issues and advancement of women) of programme 7 (Economic and social affairs). It will complement relevant activities to strengthen the capacity of developing countries to implement the declarations, and platforms for action adopted at United Nations global conferences.

Expected achievements

176. The project will result in:

(a) Enhanced capacity of national machineries to maximize the use and benefit of information, knowledge and best practices available through information and communication technologies; utilize information and communication technologies for advocacy and information sharing; produce information in lay terms as well as in local languages;

(b) Increased local women's access to and use of information and communication technologies;

(c) Enhanced regional and national capacity for information creation, dissemination, repackaging and sharing, as well as distant learning through existing national, regional and international networks, including the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System (GAINS).

Indicators of achievement

177. The proposed indicators include:

(a) LISTSERV set-up for national machineries in 10 pilot countries;

(b) Training of 5 to 10 online discussion moderators for each region (Africa, Middle East);

(c) National machineries in 5 to 10 pilot countries per region trained in the use of Internet web sites for information resources, information sharing, information dissemination and distance learning;

(d) Identification and training of 1 or 2 information re-packagers for each of selected 10 countries to translate information found on Internet web sites into local languages, visual presentations or radio programmes;

(e) Training of 5 to 10 individuals (trainers) in the creation of web pages or databases that help to disseminate information and knowledge, as well as provide feedback to WomenWatch.

Duration

178. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out from 2001 to 2003.

Activities

179. The main activities will include:

(a) Needs assessment on access, connectivity and use of information and communication technologies. This will also identify existing centres/institutions with such facilities (telecentres/schools, hospitals, libraries, research and community centres) that would benefit from network membership as well as from training to improve their skills in this area. The needs assessment report will be presented at an expert group meeting;

(b) The expert group meeting will:

(i) Examine and validate the needs assessment report;

(ii) Discuss a gender approach to information and communication technologies, including issues related to women's access to such technologies, especially rural women;

(iii) Identify partnerships through existing South/South and North/South networks, with the participation of representatives from Governments, United Nations agencies, civil society, NGOs and the private sector;

(c) Training programmes on information and communication technologies, targeting will include:

(i) National machineries in selected pilot countries: standard acquisition of skills in information and communication technologies for information creation and dissemination as well as networking. This will target national machineries as users, training them on computer/Internet literacy; user-packagers; and producers. This will be followed by a training of trainers, creating a team of trainers per pilot country;

(ii) Women (youths and adults) already in, entering or re-entering the labour market, as well as rural women, transferring to them newly acquired information and communication technologies skills to increase/enhance their professional opportunities. The newly created team of trainers will be responsible for such transfer of knowledge within existing formal institutions (schools, colleges and vocational centres), ensuring that women are trained in computer/Internet literacy; hypertext mark-up language (html) writing skills; skills for web page creation and updating, especially for existing centres; information re-packaging to translate information found on Internet web sites into local languages, visual presentations and/or radio programmes. To ensure sustainability and maximize the multiplier effect, the project will aim for the creation of a small team per school/centre that would, in turn, use a similar approach and training materials to further the training within the school/centre;

(d) Promotion of a network using existing networks targeting national machineries and NGOs in pilot countries. The Internet will be the main vehicle, allowing national machineries and selected NGOs to design their own web page to ensure women's access to:

(i) "Simplified" translations of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; "simplified" translations of various aspects of the documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

(ii) Information on educational and training programme opportunities on information and communication technologies;

(iii) Tools and indexing to help direct women to relevant information;

(iv) Highlighting women's issues (violence against women and health concerns);

(v) Promoting online group discussions (whose results will be utilized by the Division for the Advancement of Women for programme planning, implementation and monitoring);

(e) Set up a facility for online discussion groups for national machineries in 10 pilot countries of the region before extending it to others. This will ensure connectivity while serving as a springboard for ideas on how to strengthen the role of national machineries to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session. It could also be used for information sharing about good practices and lessons learned. The facility should include provision for the training of 5 to 10 online discussion moderators for training in each region.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project Q
Strengthening of a network of focal points on gender awareness in Africa and West Asia (Department of Economic and Social Affairs; and Economic Commission for Africa; in cooperation with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women)

General temporary assistance to provide substantive and logistical support, facilitate the selection of target group and pilot countries as well as project monitoring and evaluation (10 work months). (In support of all project activities.)	78 000
Expert services for needs assessment on gender focal points and access, connectivity and use of ICTs for national machineries in 10 pilot countries: international expertise: two work months fee and travel ($20,000); Regional/national expertise: two work months ($10,000). (In support of activity (a).)	30 000
Expert services for the preparation and conduct of a 4-day expert group meeting to validate the needs assessment report; agree on an implementation schedule as well as a monitoring system and indicators; identify partnerships. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c) and (d).)	12 000
Expert services for the preparation of training modules and conduct of eight training workshops in standard skills for the use of information and communication technologies and three training of trainers workshops in these technologies. (In support of activity (c).)	49 000

Expert services for the development and set-up of LISTSERVs and preparation of training materials on the LISTSERVs and on-the-job training of 10 moderators. (In support of activity (e).)	44 000
One interregional expert group meeting (30 participants) to validate the needs assessment report and to identify partnerships, stages, timetable and commitments, monitoring framework and impact assessment. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), and (d).)	54 000
Travel of staff to participate in the expert group meeting, support the proposed training activities and provide advisory services to Member States on gender aspects of capacity-building in information and communication technologies. (In support of all activities.)	42 000
Contractual services related to the printing and dissemination of training materials. (In support of activities (c), (d) and (e).)	36 000
Acquisition of computer equipment for the establishment of a networking capacity in 10 pilot countries (5 in Africa and 5 in the Middle-East). (In support of activities (d) and (e).)	130 000
Five workshops in Africa (two for francophone and two for anglophone countries), targeting national machineries and gender focal points; and one specifically targeting selected national vocational schools that provide training for young women entering the labour market: travel/per diem for participants estimated at $70,000 for five events.	70 000
Two workshops in the Middle East, targeting national machineries and gender focal points; and one specifically targeting selected national vocational schools that provide training for young women entering the labour market: travel/per diem for participants estimated at $30,000 for two events.	30 000
Three training of trainers workshops to build capacity at national and regional level to access, use and re-package information technology as well as network to increase gender awareness in Africa and the Middle East. (In support of activities (c), (d) and (e).)	50 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	78 000
Expert services	135 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	54 000
Travel	42 000
Contractual services	36 000
Acquisition of equipment	130 000
Training	150 000
Total	**625 000**

R. Networking and capacity-building for poverty alleviation through community-based development in the areas affected by environmental degradation (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objective

180. The project's objective is to build capacity and establish networks for the formulation and implementation of policies aimed at poverty eradication through community development in areas that are affected by environmental degradation in Central and South-East Asia.

Background

181. At the World Summit for Social Development held in 1995 in Copenhagen, world leaders acknowledged the strong interlinkages between economic development, social development and environmental protection, which were seen as interdependent mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework for efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. They stated that equitable social development that recognizes empowering the poor to utilize environmental resources sustainably is a necessary foundation for sustainable development, and recognized that broad-based and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development is necessary to sustain social development and social justice. While economic growth is essential, it is not sufficient to ensure poverty eradication.

182. The General Assembly, at its twenty-fourth special session in Geneva in 2000, proposed further initiatives to eradicate poverty in the context of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development. Among the recommendations made were initiatives to encourage sustainable rural development, especially in areas with low agricultural potential, and to ensure community participation in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction strategies and programmes, with a view to increasing people's self-reliance and promoting a holistic approach to the various needs of the population. The special session focused on the need to develop and implement pro-poor growth strategies to enhance the potential and increase the ability of women and men living in poverty to improve their lives. Pro-poor strategies aim to empower people living in poverty to develop and utilize their skills, knowledge, aspirations and local resources for their own benefit. These strategies recognize that people living in poverty are not passive objects to be provided assistance, but active participants and contributors to their own well-being. The special session suggested that strategies could include improving access to productive resources and microfinance and establishing programmes to raise productivity and improve knowledge, skills and capabilities.

183. This project aims at strengthening community and local government capacities to formulate policies and implement projects and programmes for community-based development and poverty eradication in regions suffering environmental degradation, in particular the shortage and contamination of water resources and the recession of forests. These problems have contributed to the fact that large parts of the rural population in Central and South-East Asian countries live in situations of increasing poverty. National and local governments in the countries concerned have undertaken various initiatives to reduce the recession of forests and preserve or develop water resources. In keeping with the spirit of the World Summit for Social Development, this project aims to assist and empower local communities, through their heightened awareness and increased participation in small-scale productive activities, to protect and preserve their fragile environmental resources while raising living standards.

184. The project will be executed by the Division for Social Policy and Development, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in cooperation with ESCAP in Bangkok, and the International Environmental Technology Centre of UNEP in Osaka, Japan. ESCAP and the International Environmental Technology Centre will assist with project implementation in the region and with the identification of local counterpart organizations. Officials from both organizations will participate in the international symposium and workshops, providing substantive inputs within their respective mandates. The participating countries include Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in Central Asia, and China (southern provinces), Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam in South-East Asia.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

185. The proposal falls within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005 under subprogrammes 7.3 (Social policy and development) and 7.4 (Sustainable development) of programme 7 (Economic and Social Affairs). It will complement relevant activities under those subprogrammes to strengthen and build capacity at the country level to implement national policies in response to commitments made at recent major conferences, in particular the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly.

Expected accomplishments

186. The project will accomplish:

(a) Strengthening of social capital through the establishment of networks of local governments, NGOs, organizations of civil society and other stakeholders involved in community development in selected regions of Central and South-East Asia;

(b) Enhancement of the capacity of local and national institutions to formulate and implement community development programmes, projects and action-oriented training for poverty eradication with linkages to measures for environmental protection;

(c) Implementation of small-scale productive activities, determined and designed by participating institutions, to provide people living in poverty in environmentally sensitive areas with opportunities for income generation through sustainable utilization of local resources.

Indicators of achievement

187. The following indicators will be used to assess the effectiveness of the project:

(a) The number and quality of productive activities for poverty eradication formulated and implemented by local institutions;

(b) Increased capacity for income generation among project participants and improved living standards in local communities affected by environmental degradation;

(c) Enhanced partnership among local governments, NGOs and other stakeholders in community development and the strengthening of mechanisms for improved communications and sharing information;

(d) Increased awareness and familiarity among officials of the stakeholder organizations of techniques for community development for poverty eradication in rural communities affected by environmental degradation;

(e) Positive outcome of small-scale community self-evaluation exercises aimed at measuring quantitative and qualitative impacts of the project.

Duration

188. It is expected that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

189. The main activities will include:

(a) One international symposium for senior officials at selected institutes to formulate programmes for capacity-building for poverty eradication, with the participation of all major stakeholders, including national and local governments, NGOs, the private sector and community-based organizations;

(b) Ten workshops at the local level, organized to translate the outcome of the international symposium into the local context and plan the relevant activities. The workshops will focus on the issues such as identification of stakeholders, as well as areas and types of productive activities to be promoted; identification of needs for training and capacity-building; establishment of time frames and steps required to implement training and capacity-building; strategies for effective coordination among stakeholder organizations for community development; capacity-building for local and community-level initiatives for poverty eradication in the areas affected by environmental degradation; strategies for effective public information systems; and networking with concerned organizations;

(c) The establishment of an Internet-based network of expertise among the participating organizations to facilitate communication and the exchange of experiences, promote discussion of policies and programmes, strengthen partnerships for poverty eradication and share information on techniques for environmental protection. This activity will include the development of a web site, setting up computers with Internet connections, the training of participating organizations in the use and maintenance of hard- and software, and the preparation of an organizational framework to ensure continuity;

(d) Two expert group meetings, one in South-East Asia and the other in Central Asia, to review and evaluate the outcome of the project and to exchange and compare experiences between the different countries in each region;

(e) Advisory assistance to stimulate and support the creation of local level productive activities.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project R
Networking and capacity-building for poverty alleviation through community-based development in the areas affected by environmental degradation (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Expert services for two international consultants to review and evaluate project accomplishments for presentation at an international workshop (estimated at three work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (a).)	24 000
Expert services for 10 national consultants to organize and facilitate local workshops (estimated 10 work months at $4,000 per month). (In support of activities (a) and (b).)	40 000
Expert services for the preparation of background papers containing assessments of current conditions and needs (estimated 3 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activities (a) and (b).)	24 000

Two expert group meetings to review and evaluate the outcome of the project, share experiences and lessons learned, strengthen regional networks and consider follow-up activities (estimated with 10 national participants and 2 international staff). (In support of activity (d).)	46 000
Travel of staff to provide coordination, backstopping, and support for the activities of the project (estimated 6 missions). (In support of activities (a), (b), (c) and (d).)	42 000
Contractual services, including institutional contracts with 10 organizations related to the work to stimulate and support creation of local level productive activities (estimated $4,000 per organization). (In support of activity (e).)	40 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous expenses. (In support of all activities.)	10 000
Acquisition of computer equipment and provision of Internet access for an initial period to support the intra- and interregional exchange of information and experiences among the participating organizations (estimated at $4,000 per organization). (In support of activity (c).)	40 000
Organization of the 3-day international symposium/seminar to discuss relevant issues and formulate programmes for capacity-building for poverty eradication (estimated with 20 national participants and 2 international staff). (In support of activity (a).)	54 000
Organization of 10 3-day local workshops, including support to local institutions, domestic travel and per diem for participants (estimated $5000 per local workshop). (In support of activity (b).)	50 000

Summary

Expert services	88 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	46 000
Travel	42 000
Contractual services	40 000
General operating expenses	10 000
Acquisition of equipment	40 000
Training	104 000
Total	**370 000**

S. Design and implementation of national cleaner technology strategies (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objectives

190. The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of the Governments of Argentina, Nicaragua, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam, on a pilot basis, to promote investment in more efficient and sustainable technologies through improved policies and public-private partnerships for promoting the development, dissemination and transfer of cleaner technologies.

191. The project will assist these Governments in the development of planning tools and methodologies for the design of national cleaner technology strategies. The project, in cooperation with government agencies and other relevant actors, will test and use these tools to produce policy recommendations to promote the transfer of cleaner technologies. The project will also lead to the identification and development of business plans, which will serve as a basis for the future transfer of cleaner technologies.

192. This pilot project is intended to motivate future replication of similar projects in other interested countries.

Background

193. The project contributes to the implementation of chapter 34 of Agenda 21 (Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21) and the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the transfer of environmentally sound technology, which identify the transfer of environmentally sound technology to developing countries, with international assistance, as a priority for sustainable development.

194. The development and transfer of more productive and cleaner technologies is essential for achieving economic growth and industrialization without environmental degradation. Cleaner technologies, including hardware, management systems and operational procedures, can contribute to both economic growth and environmental protection by increasing productivity, reducing waste and pollution and conserving natural resources.

195. Enterprises will invest in cleaner technologies if they provide a good return on investment and if they have access to those technologies. The incentives for such investments will depend on government policies and programmes, including economic investment incentives, support for research and development, environmental policies and availability of financial and technical assistance. This project will provide tools and capacities for Governments to make more effective use of their limited resources for supporting the development, transfer and investment in cleaner technologies while focusing and coordinating their efforts on high potential growth sectors and technologies.

196. The Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, which will implement this project, possesses substantial expertise in the area of policies for the transfer of cleaner technologies.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

197. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, under subprogramme 7.4 (Sustainable development) of programme 7 (Economic and social affairs).

Expected accomplishments

198. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Development of policies and strategies for sustainable industrial development through the transfer and development of cleaner and more productive technologies and environmental management in accordance with the national priorities and capacities of each country;

(b) Development of tools for improved decision-making through the integration of economic, social and environmental concerns and improved coordination and cooperation among government agencies, industry and research institutions in the design and implementation of industrial modernization strategies and policies;

(c) Development of business plans, in cooperation with government and industry, for the transfer of cleaner technologies, as well as recommendations for future action identified in the national cleaner technology strategies developed as part of the project.

Indicators of achievement

199. Indicators will include:

(a) Completion of all assessment studies and policy recommendations prescribed in the project and their acceptance by Governments;

(b) Number of government agencies and other relevant organizations cooperating in the development of each national project;

(c) Completion of business plans for the transfer of cleaner technologies and proposals for acceptance and future action by the relevant government agencies.

Duration

200. It is anticipated that the project will be executed between 2002 and 2003.

Activities

201. The following activities will be undertaken:

(a) Identification and establishment of project teams in each country, including representatives from relevant government agencies and local consultants, and training of the project teams in the methodology for assessing technological capacities and opportunities;

(b) Conduct of a "Capacities and opportunities assessment" to determine the industrial sectors and technologies in which the country can take advantage of existing national capacities in areas of potential industrial growth, market development and public and private external assistance;

(c) Conduct of "Cleaner technology assessments" for two technology sectors selected in consultation with the government agencies concerned;

(d) Development of business plans for the transfer of the selected technologies to the industrial sectors concerned. These plans will serve as a basis for the future transfer of technologies to the sectors identified in the above-mentioned assessments. The completion of the proposed technology transfer transactions is left to each Government to pursue and are not within the scope of the project;

(e) Policy reviews of selected industry sectors and technology areas. The reviews will cover industrial regulations, taxes and economic incentives, investment and trade policies, environmental policies and other policies affecting the sectors;

(f) Review and evaluation of the project's outcome in the four countries. Progress reports will describe the current situation in each country and identify problems and barriers encountered in the implementation of the project. Reports will be disseminated to interested Governments.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project S
Design and implementation of national cleaner technology strategies (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Experts services of national consultants related to:	
(a) Assessment of national capacities and opportunities for each project country (estimated 17 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (b).)	136 000
(b) Cleaner technology assessments (estimated 5 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (c).)	40 000
(c) Development of business plans (estimated 5 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (d).)	40 000
(d) Policy reviews in the four countries (estimated 7 work months at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (e).)	60 000
(e) Mid-term review (estimated at $1,500 per country for 1 work month). (In support of activity (f).)	6 000
Four regional expert group meetings to discuss and disseminate project results with other Governments of the region (estimated at $11,000 per meeting).	44 000
Staff travel for planning, monitoring and evaluation missions. (In support of activities (a) through (f).)	60 000
Contractual services related to the preparation of training materials. (In support of activities (a) through (f).)	8 000
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and miscellaneous activities. (In support of all activities.)	6 000

Summary

Expert services	282 000
Ad hoc expert group meeting	44 000
Travel	60 000
Contractual services	8 000
General operating expenses	6 000
Total	**400 000**

T. Strengthening statistical capacity in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia)

Objectives

202. The project's objective is to strengthen national statistical systems in the countries of the ESCWA region and to promote interregional cooperation among these systems.

Background

203. Statistics and indicators are critical tools for countries in policy-making and for socio-economic planning. They are needed for assessment of the current situation to set objectives for the future, and to measure progress and development. The Economic and Social Council has recognized the importance of statistics and indicators in the context of the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, and, in its resolutions 1999/55 and 2000/29, stressed the importance of relevant, accurate, and timely statistics and indicators for evaluating the implementation of the outcome of the recent international conferences.

204. A substantial gap still exists between the demand for information and the ability of most countries to routinely supply this information, both in terms of the availability and the quality of data. Most countries still need national and international support to strengthen statistical capacity-building and to make progress in the development of relevant statistics and indicators. In stressing the importance of statistics, the Economic and Social Council has reaffirmed the importance of statistical training and has urged United Nations organizations, including the Secretariat, to mobilize the required resources and coordinate their efforts to support national statistical capacity-building in developing countries.

205. The Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs has provided assistance to Member States for many decades and has, over the years, accumulated the technical and managerial expertise required to implement the proposed project. Many guidelines, handbooks and other technical notes have been developed by the Statistics Division, which can be used as reference material for training sessions and regional coordination.

206. The project complements two statistical development projects implemented in the Caribbean countries and in the region of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) funded under the first and second tranches of the Development Account. The present project will draw from the experience gained and the lessons learned during the implementation and take advantage of technical material developed for training activities within these two projects.

207. The project will be executed by the Statistics Division in collaboration with the Statistics Division of ESCWA.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

208. The proposal is consistent with the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, under subprogramme 7.5 (Statistics) of programme 7 (Economic and social affairs) and under subprogramme 18.5 (Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics) of programme 18 (Economic and social development in Western Asia).

Expected accomplishments

209. The implementation of the project will result in:

(a) Improved organization of the statistical systems and strengthened capacity of the countries in the region to develop and disseminate policies and practices;

(b) Development of common methodologies and classifications for the collection of data and common statistical priorities in areas such as economic and social statistics;

(c) Strengthened capacity of the countries to routinely produce statistical data in specific statistical areas such as the production of macroeconomic indicators and social statistics;

(d) Strengthened coordination and communication among countries;

(e) Upgraded technological capacity to promote networking among statistical offices in the region;

(f) Strengthened capacity of the Statistics Division of ESCWA in promoting regional statistical coordination.

Indicators of achievement

210. The proposed indicators include:

(a) Development of and agreement reached on common code of principles for the dissemination and marketing of official statistics;

(b) Number of experts trained in and exchanged among national statistical offices in the region;

(c) Increased use of common questions in surveys/censuses, common statistical definitions and methodologies and common list of development indicators.

Duration

211. It is anticipated that the project will be carried out between 2002 and 2004.

Activities

212. The main activities of the project will include:

(a) Three seminars for managers of statistical offices to develop a common regional approach to official statistics particularly related to the operation of statistical systems, dissemination, marketing and advocacy of official statistics. The seminars will include the introduction of a handbook on statistical operations developed by the Statistics Division and an exchange of information on the problems and the successes experienced by the countries of the region. Issues related to the implementation of regional strategies at country level will also be addressed;

(b) Two expert group meetings on social statistics and macroeconomic indicators to exchange country experiences, develop common methodologies and identify common statistical priorities;

(c) Three training workshops for staff of national statistical offices to improve the technical capability of countries in the collection of social statistics, the production of macroeconomic indicators and the implementation of international classifications and methodologies. The workshops will facilitate the implementation of common methodologies and will establish a regional network of statisticians, which could support national statisticians in the implementation of their day-to-day work;

(d) Exchange of experts between statistical offices in the region for short periods of time to encourage the implementation of common methodologies and facilitate the exchange of information on statistical procedures (estimated 13 fellowships);

(e) Upgrading the information and communication technologies in national statistical offices in order to improve the electronic communications of statisticians and to support the electronic and printed dissemination of regional statistical data;

(f) Advisory services in the field of collection and dissemination of statistics and use and maintenance of technology (estimated 10 missions). Experts from the Statistical Division and the Statistical Division of ESCWA and subregional, regional and international consultants will provide technical support for the implementation of this project.

Resource requirements (in United States dollars)

Project T
Strengthening statistical capacity in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia)

General temporary assistance. Provision of a regional coordinator to be located at ESCWA to assure implementation of daily ongoing activities and to serve as administrative focal point in the region (estimated at 20 work months at $3,500 per month). (In support of activities (a) to (f).)	70 000
Expert services for developing training material, conducting training workshops and providing technical assistance to countries (estimated at 9 months at $7,000 per month). (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), (f).)	63 000
Organization of two expert group meetings (13 country experts each) to develop common statistical methodologies (estimated at $45,000 per meeting). (In support of activity (b).)	90 000
Organization of three expert group meetings of managers of statistical office (estimated at $45,000 per meeting). (In support of activity (a).)	135 000
Travel of staff and technical advisers to provide technical and administrative support to the activities of the project (estimated at 10 missions at $7,000 per mission). (In support of activity (f).)	70 000
General operating expenses for supplies, materials, printing of reports, reproduction, translation and interpretation during meetings and for other miscellaneous services, including translation into Arabic of statistical documents by technical experts and for interpretation during meetings. (In support of activities (a) to (f).)	66 000
Acquisition of equipment, both hardware and software, to upgrade technology with network servers, power supplies, desktop hardware components and Internet connectivity hardware. (In support of activity (e).)	100 000
Organization of three workshops (13 participants each meeting) to strengthen the existing expertise in areas such as trade and social statistics (estimated at $45,000 per meeting). (In support of activity (c).)	135 000
Fellowships and study tours (1-month study by 13 experts at $7,000 per expert). (In support of activity (d).)	91 000

Summary

General temporary assistance	70 000
Expert services	63 000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	225 000
Travel	70 000
Contractual services	66 000
Acquisition of equipment	100 000
Training	135 000
Grants, fellowships and contributions	91 000
Total	**820 000**

Appendix

List of projects proposed to be funded from the Development Account during the biennium 2002-2003

(United States dollars)

Project title	*Amount*
A. Capacity-building for the promotion of capital markets in Africa (Economic Commission for Africa)	905 000
B. Capacity-building for research on emerging population issues in developing countries (Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Economic Commission for Africa; and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)	510 000
C. Capacity-building in trade facilitation and electronic business in the Mediterranean (Economic Commission for Europe; Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; and Economic Commission for Africa)	600 000
D. Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with the gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; and Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	850 000
E. Urban poverty: an action-oriented strategy for urban governments and institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements)	800 000
F. Strengthening of networking of institutions and experts to accelerate the development of social and environmental statistics in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	825 000
G. Capacity-building of member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for managing globalization (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	950 000
H. Networking of expertise on foreign direct investment in member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	480 000
I. Capacity-building in developing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages (Economic Commission for Europe; Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; Economic Commission for Africa; and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia)	1 250 000
J. Capacity-building on key issues on the international economic agenda (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	960 000
K. Capacity-building in developing countries to attract and benefit from international investment (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	950 000
L. Building capacity through training in dispute settlements in international trade, investment and intellectual property (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	420 000
M. Institutional capacity-building for competition law policy (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	410 000
N. Improving participation and capacity-building in the implementation of certified environmental management systems in West Asia (United Nations Environment Programme)	230 000

Project title	*Amount*
O. Renewable energy for information and the provision of communication services in rural areas of developing countries (United Nations Environment Programme; and the International Telecommunication Union)	260 000
P. Drug abuse prevention in the workplace and in the family in Southern Cone countries (United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention)	450 000
Q. Strengthening of a network of focal points on gender awareness in Africa and West Asia (Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Economic Commission for Africa; in cooperation with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women)	625 000
R. Networking and capacity-building for poverty alleviation through community-based development in the areas affected by environmental degradation (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	370 000
S. Design and implementation of national cleaner technology strategies (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	400 000
T. Strengthening statistical capacity in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Department of Economic and Social Affairs; and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia)	820 000
Total	**13 065 000**